

(Flechas)

BUFFETT

- I. Joseph J. Flechas Jan. 24, 1883 - d. 59 yrs. (m. Feb. 7, 1862 in N.O.)
m. Condalaura Villard July 19, 1908 d. 66yrs.
- A. Mary Isabella Flechas July 31, 1864- Dec. 8, 1926 (Marriage Apr. 29, 1885)
m. Paul Marcilla Poitevin Dec. 22, 1858 - Oct. 27, 1925
1. Elwood Cowan Poitevin Aug. 15, 1888 - Dec. 27, 1977
m. Ozie Lennep
2. Eugene Paul Poitevin Mar. 17, 1890 -
m. Emma Bishop Jan. 26, 1892 - Oct. 5, 1961
3. Ethel Rose Poitevin n.m.
4. Carmille Lillian Poitevin
m. George Rodriguez
- B. Josephine Phillipa Flechas (M. Feb. 23, 1897)
m. Rufus Kee
1. Edwin Kee
2. Ives
3. Rufus William b. Nov. 3, 1902
4. Joseph Flechas b. Nov. 3, 1902
5. Alvis
6. Eugene Paul b. July 28, 1910
- C. Victoria A. Flechas Nov. 3, 1868 - June 27, 1952
m. Edward Emanuel Krebs Aug. 19, 1865- Jan. 8, 1943
1. Ray Flechas Krebs Feb. 8, 1892 - Mar. 6, 1972
m. Rose Ida Stiglets d. Mar. 9, 1928
a. Victor Ray Krebs
m. Theresa Elizabeth Gentile
1. Victor Ray Jr.
2. Carla Anita
b. John Edward Krebs
m. Rita Mae Gentile
1. Diane Rose Krebs
m. (2) Almeda Webb May 6, 1906 - June 6, 1973
a. August, Victoria, Reliegh, Goldie, Franklin, Hazel
- D. Virginia Flechas n.m. Dec. 18, 1871 - June 6, 1944
- E. John Flechas
m. Mary
1. John
2. Mary
- F. Condalaura Flechas d. 1935 age 63
m. Norman M. Seymour d. Jan 2, 1946 age 79
1. Hilda Oct. 30, 1897 - d. Apr. 6, 1989, b. Machpelah Cemetery
m. J.D. Buffett
a. Patrica m. Roy LUMPKIN
b. J.D. m. Lorraine Peetz
c. Katherine m. Jack Rappoport
d. Billy b. 7-16-1926; d. 10-26-1991 m. Joyce
2. Mildred m. Walter Pelham
3. Lois m. J. H. Tew (L. d. Aug. 9, 1965)
a. June
b. J. H. (Twins)
c. Blanch
d. Bernard
e. Sonny Boy
4. Hulbert n.m. Apr. 16, 1904 - May 23, 1971
5. Norman Richard Flechas n.m. Jan. 14, 1903 -
6. Bernard James Jan 20, 1910- 7. Blanch m. H. V. Spavin Mar. 1, 1907-
m. Ophelia a. Betty Lahare m.
a. Carol
b. Dorothy
c. Bernard
d. Candalaura

R.K.

- E. Miguel Martin Flechas Feb. 25, 1879 - May 11, 1948 **BUFFETT**
m. Louise Walker b. d. Sept. 19, 1972
1. Candalaria Flechas
m. A. M. Browne b. Feb. 2, 1888 in Nairn, La. d. Aug. 13, 1978
a. Kay Marie Perez DeLeon
 2. Ferdie F. Flechas
m. Helen Ros Cox
a. Genevieve
b. Ferdie F. Jr.
 3. Anias Flechas
m. A. W. Penola
a. Mary Lou
 4. Victoria Flechas
m. Dr. Thomas Beech
a. Don
 5. Miguel M. Flechas
m. Dell Hobdy
a. Miguel M. Flechas Jr.
m. Kay Fant
 6. Alfred Flechas
m. Myrtle Duncan
a. Keith, Keneth, A.J. Jr., Gene
 7. Louise Flechas
m. Dorsey E. Lyons d. June 9, 1964 age 49
a. Richard E. m. Anne Dewey
b. Clara m. John Castona
c. Judy e. Linda f. Patricia g. Nancy
 8. Lillian Flechas
m. Richard Lynch
a. Caroline, Ronald, Frances, Richard,
Janice, Jaunita
 9. Mary Azelie Flechas -- D. MAR. 1989
m. Dr. Micheal Sherdan
a. Kathalenn, Bonny, Patrick, Nancy,
Eileen, Timothy, Vincent

H. Paul Eugene Flechas Feb. 16, 1881 - Dec. 23, 1889

Dr. Joseph

Hugues August Poitevin Father (French Counselor at Pensacola)

1. Paul Poitevin
m. Mary Flechas
2. Lannie Poietiven
m. D.D. & James Krebs (Sons of Hiliare Madard Krebs & Marie L. Raby)
3. Bertha Harriet Poitevin b. 1859 d. 1942 (m. 6-16-1859)
m. Irving P. Delmas B. Jan. 21, 1849 d. Dec. 15, 1928
4. Gaston Poitevin b. Nov. 30, 1866 -
m. Bella Smith (Isabelle) Married Dec. 23, 1896

(Marriage Records - Escambia Fla. Book "B" Sept. 24, 1844

Joseph A. H. Poitevin Married Merced Palmes - Record Sept. 25, by
J. M. Portier) Mobile Genesis - May 1968

Dr. Joseph Auguste Hugues Poitevin died at E. Pascagoula, Miss. on July 4, 1877
age 58 1 month and 4 days

Merced Palmes d. Jan. 20, 1908 wife of the late Dr. A. Potiven age 83 yrs 6 mos.
b. Krebs Cemetery from the residence of I. P. Delmas

d. Candalaria

The MS Press

May 3, 2003

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owner of Free
in Kreole. She
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Evie Gillian;
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de her hus-
Maples of
Mazie Grady

of Moss Point; sister, Opal Leonard of Millport, Ala.; three grandchildren, Mark Grady, Donald Grady and Brian (Toni) Grady; and three great grandchildren, Justin Grady, Joshua Grady and Karah Grady; other relatives and many friends.

Visitation will be Sunday, May 4, from 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. at Holder-Wells Funeral Home in Moss Point, Miss. Funeral Services will follow at 2 p.m. from the funeral home chapel with the Rev. Danny Tanner and the Rev. F.A. Ellis officiating.

Interment will be at Orange Grove Cemetery in Kreole, Miss.

Pallbearers will be Don Burchette, Henry Ping, Delbert Green, James LaForce, Horace Goff and Jerry Johnson.

There is a hole in our hearts at your passing, but joy is filling that emptiness because a beautiful spiritual journey has begun that will take you to that promise made by Jesus many

years ago. "I go to prepare a place for you"

Arrangements by Holder-Wells Funeral Home, Moss Point, Miss.

HARE

Mrs. Alberta P. Hare, 78, of Ocean Springs, Miss., died Wednesday, April 30, 2003, in Ocean Springs. She was a lifelong resident of the community and had retired from the Keesler Air Force Base Exchange. Mrs. Hare was preceded in death by her husband, John A. Hare; a son, John Arthur Hare, Jr.; her parents, Jodie and Zoa Guillolette Wilson; and a brother, Herman Wilson.

Survivors include her daughter, Sandy L. Hare of Gig Harbour, Washington; a son, Mark A. Hare and wife, Eleanor, of Ocean Springs; a sister, Marie Jordan of Biloxi; a grandson, Woody Peterson of Gig Harbour, Washington; and a host of family members and friends.

Visitation will be on Monday, May 5, from 9 to 10:15 a.m. with a 10:15 a.m. chapel service, at Ocean Springs Chapel, Bradford O'Keefe Funeral Home. Burial will be in the Biloxi National Cemetery.

Arrangements by Bradford O'Keefe Funeral Home, Ocean Springs, Miss.

AREA DEATHS —

GLORIA EDWARDS, 62, of Leaf, Miss., died May 2, 2003. Sigler Funeral Home, Lucedale, Miss.

"Obituaries over one inch in length are paid advertisements."

J.D. Buffett, father of Jimmy Buffett and Pascagoula native, dies at 83

By PENELOPE DEESE
The Mobile Register

POINT CLEAR - Pascagoula native James Delaney "J.D." Buffett, the father of singer Jimmy Buffett, died Thursday after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

The Point Clear resident was 83.

Marvin Ussery, who lived near J.D. Buffett and his wife, Mary Loraine "Peets" Buffett, when the couple resided in Daphne, said he remembers J.D. Buffett enjoying walks on the beach and college football.

"He shared the same Auburn spirit," Ussery said of Buffett's interest in football. "He enjoyed walking on the beach with his dogs, fishing - just days down there on the beach and pier."

J.D. Buffett joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on his birthday in 1941 and was stationed in Maine, Montana, Africa and India before being discharged as a master sergeant in February 1946.

He spent much of his life in southwest Alabama, where he worked his way up from the estimating department at Alabama Marine Inc. to managing government contracts during a 35-year career with the Mobile-based company.

J.D. and Peets Buffett his wife of 61 years eventually moved to the Eastern Shore, first living in Daphne before settling in Point Clear.

His obituary, submitted to



J.D. Buffett

The Mississippi Press, recounted a life of accomplishment, and joy in the simple pleasures of coastal life.

"He was an active participant in maritime and industry affairs on the Gulf Coast. Residing on the shore of Mobile Bay for the last 27 years, J.D. rose most days at dawn to enjoy a pot of strong coffee before heading outdoors to check the crab traps and walk the dogs," it said. "Every day, he relished in the accomplishments of his three children and their families and cherished the companionship of his best friend and life partner, Peets."

Ussery said J.D. Buffett's happy demeanor made him an easily likable neighbor.

"He was a fine gentleman

and a good friend," he said. "I thought a lot of him. He was always jovial and in a good humor and enjoyed life and was proud of his family. He was a good person."

Buffett's survivors include his son, Jimmy, and two daughters, Loraine McGuane and Lucy Buffett, who owns and manages Lulu's Sunset Grill on Weeks Bay in southwest Baldwin County.

He is also survived by nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

According to a 1996 *Mobile Register* article, J.D. Buffett was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 1993, one year after the couple's 50th wedding anniversary. They had been married for 61 years.

Visitation will be held from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Monday at Fairhope Funeral Home, followed by an 11 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Fairhope. A private burial will be held in Memory Gardens in Fairhope.

The family suggests that donations be made to Mercy Medical Hospice Development Office, P.O. Box 1090, Daphne AL 36526 or The James Delaney Buffett Jr. Scholarship Fund, Maine Maritime Academy, Castine, ME 04420.

The staff of The Mississippi Press contributed to this report.

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Jimmy Buffett's father dies at 83

By GARY HOLLAND
THE SUN HERALD

James Delaney "J.D." Buffett, a Pascagoula native and father of singer Jimmy Buffett, died Thursday at the age of 83 after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

He lived in Point Clear, Ala. after a 35-year career at Alabama Dry Docks in Mobile.

Buffett was a member of the first graduating class at the old Pascagoula High School in 1939.

"We went to school together from Beach Elementary through high school," George Hollister of Pascagoula said.

"J.D. was a likable, ordinary student. When we finished school, he went to work at Ingalls Shipyard like most of us did, and later

went to Alabama Dry Docks," he said. "He had battled Alzheimer's for many years and hadn't been to a class reunion since 1992."

"He was an all-around good guy," recalled Annie Lee Colle Petty of Moss Point, also a classmate at Pascagoula High School. "He was very popular and very friendly."

Buffett enlisted in the Army Corps of Engineers on his birthday in 1941 and was

discharged as a master sergeant in 1946.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Mary Loraine Peets Buffett; his son and two daughters, Loraine Marie Buffett McGuyane and Lucy Anne Buffett.

Visitation will be Monday from 8 to 10 a.m. at Fairhope Funeral Home, followed by 11 a.m. Mass at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Fairhope.



J.D. Buffett

OBILE REGISTER

f the Larrieu of Ponchatoula, LA; sis-
tion ters, Georgia Lee Brown of
nber Coldspings, TX and Minnie Mae
quiet Hanson of Robertsdale, AL; spe-
cial niece, Beverly Gartman of
mily Spanish Fort, AL; nieces,
of St. nephews, family and friends;
He loving companion, Boo, Boody,
his and Man. Funeral services for
H. Mr. Clark Sr. will be Tuesday,
law, September 30, 2003 at 2:00 p.m.
lved from the chapel of Bayview
lulia Funeral Home, Daphne, AL with
ugh- Rev. Jim Jordan officiating.
reg) Interment in Wilson Cemetery.
een Visitation will be Monday
ree evening from 6:00 p.m. until
en, 8:00 p.m. from Bayview Funeral
nd Home, Daphne Chapel.
six Arrangements entrusted to
um BAYVIEW FUNERAL HOME,
nd Daphne, Alabama.

POINT CLEAR, AL



BUFFETT

Mary Loraine "Peets" Buffett —
Age 82, departed this life
Thursday evening, September
25, 2003, surrounded by family
and friends. Born in Crystal
Springs, Mississippi to Thomas
Delos Peets and Bessie Love
Thompson, she is preceded in
death by her husband of 62
years, James Delaney Buffett,
Jr., who passed in May of this
year. She leaves behind three
devoted children, her son,
James William Buffett (Jane) of
Palm Beach, Florida, daughter
Loraine Marie Buffett McGuane
(Thomas) of McLeod, Montana
and Lucy Anne Buffett of Point
Clear, Alabama. Nine loving
grandchildren, Heather Hume

BUFFETT

Mary Loraine "Peets"

Buffett, 82, departed this life Thursday evening, Sept. 25, 2003, surrounded by family and friends. Born in Crystal Springs, Miss., to Thomas Delos Peets and Bessie Love Thompson, she is preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, James Delaney Buffett Jr., who passed in May of this year.

She leaves behind three devoted children, her son, James William Buffett (Jane) of Palm Beach, Fla., two daughters, Loraine Marie Buffett McGuane (Thomas) of Mcleod, Montana, and Lucy Anne Buffett of Point Clear, Ala.; nine loving grandchildren, Heather Hume Nelson, Mara Delaney Buffett, Melanie Leigh Buffett, Savannah Jane Buffett, Anne Buffett McGuane, Sarah Delaney Buffett, Cameron Marley Buffett, Thomas Francis McGuane IV and Margaret Kidder McGuane; and four precious great-grandchildren, Thomas,

Charlie, Maisie and Walker James.

"Peets" went to work at Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Co. in 1948 where she held various positions, including being the first equal employment coordinator. She retired in 1979 as the first female assistant director of industrial relations. She fulfilled a lifelong dream of completing her college degree. She graduated cum laude from the University of South Alabama at age 64.

Residing on the Eastern Shore of Mobile Bay for the past 27 years, she delighted in gorgeous sunsets, the scent of magnolias and visits from loved ones. She also enjoyed writing poetry, the comfort of her beloved dogs and throwing a good party.

She touched the lives of everyone she met and will be missed dearly.

The family will receive friends from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Tuesday at Fairhope Funeral Home. The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. at Saint Lawrence Catholic Church in Fairhope. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to: Mercy Medical Hospice Development Office, P.O. Box 1090, Daphne, Ala., 36526, or the Mary Loraine Peets Buffett Scholarship at the University of Southern Mississippi, Gulf Coast campus, 730 East Beach Blvd., Long Beach, Miss., 39560.

Funeral arrangements are by Fairhope Funeral Home and Crematory, 19698 Greeno Road, Fairhope, Ala., 36532.

Pascagoula native Buffett laid to rest

■ Laughter, tears mark day tailor-made for a sailor

By ROY HOFFMAN
The Mobile Register

FAIRHOPE, Ala. — On a tropical morning any sailor would relish, Pascagoula native James Delaney (J.D.) Buffett Jr., father of famed singer Jimmy Buffett, was laid to rest on Monday.

As mourners filed into the airy sanctuary, they were offered two cards printed with photographs of the one-time sailor and shipyard worker, with quotations from famous authors on the reverse side. "Depart upon thy endless cruise old Sailor," read one card. Ernest Hemingway's *Old Man and the Sea*, assured on the other, no man was ever alone on the sea.

Following Buffett's white-draped casket as it was rolled up the aisle were his family members — Mary Loraine Peets Buffett, his wife of 61 years, in a wheelchair wearing a black hat with a thin yellow ribbon; their two daughters, Loraine (Laurie) Marie Buffett McGuane, who raises horses in Montana, and Lucy Anne Buffett, who runs LuLus Sunset Grill, at Fish River, Ala.; and their son, James William Buffett, universally known as Jimmy, whose "Son of A Son of A Sailor," "Margaritaville," and other laid-back, rollicking pop songs are enjoyed by legions of fans, the most fervent called Parrotheads.

"My parents were hard-working," Jimmy Buffett told the *Register* in an interview last March. "I think that's one of the assets as to how I was able to



Mobile Register/Mike Kittrell

Lucy Buffett, second from right, and others gather outside St. Lawrence Catholic Church before Mass for her late father James Delaney Buffett Jr., Monday in Fairhope.

navigate my way through the music business. I learned a great work ethic, but at the same time I thought life is fun."

As the Buffett clan made their procession, joined by several women who had helped take care of the 83-year old patriarch during his fatal decline from Alzheimer's, the sense became palpable of the Pascagoula native who worked and lived around waterfronts much of his life, and had imparted strong values — and much joy — to his accomplished and sprawling family.

The music at the funeral Mass was from the hymnal of Fairhope's St. Lawrence Catholic Church, and Jimmy, Laurie and Lucy were silent grieverers along with spouses and children — nine grandchildren in all to Peets and J.D. There were hugs, and some smiles, as stories were told about the loved

one they had come to bury, and honor.

The eulogy was given by novelist Thomas McGuane, married to Laurie. The author of numerous books, among them *Ninety-two in the Shade* and *The Bushwacked Piano*, and praised by the *Los Angeles Herald-Examiner* as one of this country's most important literary writers, McGuane was, above all on Monday, J.D. Buffett's son-in-law, trying to make his way through a tribute without blubbering, as he said.

After thanking Buffett's caretakers, he reflected how Alzheimer's had cruelly robbed the family of the man they had come to know and love. With their memory of an earlier J.D. restored by death, McGuane said, they would recall, once again, the J.D. who had been a complex, family-loving, vibrant man.

In saying how each of us has a J.D., he spoke of his own — a man who loved to walk the Mobile Bay surf with his dog Moon, visit with family members on his and Peets' Point Clear wharf, check his crab traps with greater urgency than a man, he joked, rushing to an ATM machine for cash. He told of J.D.'s enthusiasm for jubilees, and how, to McGuane, his father-in-law's musings on this Mobile Bay phenomenon made them seem as if they originated in the spirit world.

Woman shares fond memories of J.D. Buffett

By MOODY CONNELL
Mississippi Press Staff

When she thinks of the late J.D. Buffett, 84-year-old Donna Hamilton of Forts Lake holds memories of her late husband Irving, World War II and peacetime front-porch visit.

Buffett, the father of singer Jimmy Buffett, was laid to rest Monday in Fairhope. He was 84.

The late Irving P. Hamilton served on a ship with J.D. Buffett shortly after boarding a train at Grand Hotel in Point Clear in 1942 for military training in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II.

A book she has includes pictures and background of a military unit assigned as a "floating air craft ship and made part for B-29's," she said.

Aboard that ship, Irving Hamilton and Buffett toured Guam, Saipan, Hawaii, Okinawa and the Bahamas, she said. While under wartime conditions near the Panama Canal the ship's crew spotted an enemy submarine and the men were instructed to sleep with their shoes and clothes on in case they were called to battle stations, she said. Fortunately for the sailors, no further contact was made with the sub.

Returning March 16, 1946, after the war, her husband took his wife to meet Buffett while he was living in a small house near the shipyards. "They sat on the porch and my husband and him enjoyed talking that afternoon" in a warm reunion, she said.

Like most World War II veterans, the Hamiltons and the Buffetts worked hard and raised families. Irving Hamilton had a long career with International Paper. He and his wife raised a daughter, Donna, who lives in Mobile County. Irving Hamilton died in 1999.

As for his former shipmate, Buffett spent the rest of his life working and living near the water. One of his children would put life on the sea to music.

tingly and a special son-in-law,

Matriarch of Buffett family dies

Singer Jimmy Buffett attributes much of his own early awareness of the arts to 'Peets'

By ROY HOFFMAN

Special to The Mississippi Press

Mary Loraine Peets Buffett, a shipyard administrator who became the book-loving matriarch of a talented family, including the singer Jimmy Buffett, died on Thursday at Thomas Hospital in Fairhope.

Buffett, who was 82, was surrounded by her family at the time, according to her granddaughter, Melanie Buffett.

Born Mary Loraine Peets in Crystal Springs, Miss., the woman who was known simply as "Peets," married James Delaney "J.D." Buffett 62 years ago.

While raising their three children in west Mobile, the Buffetts were employed on the Mobile waterfront, J.D. as an estimator, Peets as an administrator, at Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Co. (ADDSCO).

After attending Gulf Park College in Biloxi, according to her close friend, Suzanne Cleveland of Mobile, Peets Buffett started as a secretary at ADDSCO and worked her way up to become assistant director of industrial

relations. "That's distinctive for anyone, especially a woman," said Cleveland, who was trained by Buffett for a position in that office.

"My first impression was how loving she was," Cleveland recalled. "Peets was very smart, but never arrogant. She was able to work effectively in a man's world."

Cleveland, a generation younger than Buffett, eventually looked to Peets as a confidante, she said. "You could talk to her about anything very comfortably. She never passed judgment." During their last years, J.D. and Peets Buffett lived in Baldwin County's Eastern Shore area.

Melanie Buffett, who helped care for her Buffett grandparents, said of Peets: "She made me a better person, a better listener. She gave me an insight into what it's like to be in that

generation." Melanie, who works as a yoga instructor in Fairhope, added of her grandmother: "She was the glue to our most amazing family. We've all lived so far apart, and she's been Grand Central."

When J.D. Buffett died last May, it was Peets, pushed in a wheelchair, who led the procession of mourners behind the white-draped casket of her late husband. "They were a swan couple," said Melanie. "Swans mate for life. When one dies the other soon follows."

Peets retired from ADDSCO in 1979, exchanging her office books for school books. According to her family, she graduated from the University of South Alabama — cum laude — at 64.

Jimmy Buffett attributes much of his own, early awareness of the arts to Peets. In April, 2002, he told *The Mobile Register*: "My mother certainly was the influence on the artistic things. My dad was a shipyard guy. My mother wanted us to see beyond the boundaries of Spring Hill."

"We came on one side from a seafaring family. My grandfather, in his travels, certainly was an influence on all of us, it was one window to the world. My mother offered another window to the world in that she encouraged us to read and to explore the arts."

Daughter Lucy "Lulu" Buffett, who runs the Baldwin County seafood restaurant, "Lulu's Sunset Grill," also spoke of her mother's love for the arts. In a 2002 *Register* profile, "Lulu's Back in Town," Lucy Buffett recalled a childhood household where music poured from her mother's record player. "She loved Rodgers and Hammerstein," Lucy said of Peets, noting the scores "South Pacific," "Hello Dolly," and "The King and I."

Peets Buffett is survived by her son, James William Buffett of Palm Beach, Fla.; daughters Loraine Marie Buffett McGuane of McLeod, Mont., and Lucy Anne Buffett of Point Clear; nine grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Tuesday at Fairhope Funeral Home, 19698 Greeno Road, Fairhope, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Fairhope at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Mercy Medical Hospice Development Office, P.O. Box 1090, Daphne, AL 36526; or to the Mary Loraine Peets Buffett Scholarship at the University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Campus, 730 East Beach Blvd., Long Beach, MS 39560.



Mary Loraine Peets Buffett

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INSIDE SECTION B

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■ Weather: 10

METRO/REGION

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2003

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Peets Buffett remembered for her love and 'zest for life'

► Newsman Ed Bradley extolls exuberance and deeply held convictions of family matriarch

By ROY HOFFMAN
Staff Reporter

FAIRHOPE — Eulogized by her friend Ed Bradley of CBS's "60 Minutes," Mary Loraine Peets Buffett was remembered Tuesday for her infectious love of books, people and family in a funeral service at St. Lawrence

Catholic Church. The Rev. Fergus Prendergast presided over the Mass of Christian Burial.

Bradley said he had met her 25 years ago and they became fast friends. "I got in two or three 'Mrs. Buffett's' before she said, 'Ed, you'll have to call me 'Peets.'"

Bradley was referring to the nickname by which Buffett — the matriarch of her family, including the singer Jimmy Buffett — was known to friends.

More than 200 people attended the Tuesday morning service, which lasted about an hour. Buffett, 82, who

had been in declining health for some time, died Thursday evening at Thomas Hospital in Fairhope.

A Mississippi native, she spent most of her life in the Mobile area, moving some years ago to Baldwin County's Eastern Shore area.

The Tuesday gathering evoked memories of James Delaney "J.D." Buffett, Peets' husband of 62 years. On Tuesday, Prendergast, who had presided over J.D.'s funeral in May, spoke of the "human love" between the Buffett couple as an image of



BILL STARLING/Staff Photographer

Ed Bradley, second from right, of the CBS News program "60 Minutes," leaves St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Fairhope on Tuesday after delivering the eulogy for Peets Buffett. Buffett, who died Thursday, and Bradley were longtime friends. The man at right is unidentified.

RK

Please see Peets Page 3B ►

Peets remembered

►Continued from Page 1B

"Godly love."

Bradley recalled Peets' love of learning — she went back to college after retiring from Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Co., graduating cum laude from the University of South Alabama at age 64. He extolled her exuberance, telling Prendergast, "Father, I don't want to look like I'm making her a saint. She loved to throw good parties and, I can attest, to go to good parties."

Bradley told of a New Orleans French Quarter restaurant a few years back where Peets, dependent on a wheelchair, was undaunted that a party took place on the second floor. "Ed," she said, "I'm going to trust you to get me up the stairs."

"Although it took her independence," Bradley said of a stroke that she had suffered, "it didn't take her zest for life."

He praised her conviction of racial equality in the era of "a different South."

He added that Peets reminded him of a line from one of Jimmy Buffett's songs: "And there's that one particular harbor, sheltered from the wind, where the children play on the shore each day, and all are safe within."

Bradley, a 23-year veteran of "60 Minutes," noted that Peets had "not just a successful and famous son, but two daughters who charted their own course in life."

The son, James William "Jimmy" Buffett, the creator of beachy pop classics like "Margaritaville" and "Cheeseburger in Paradise," was silent in a tan suit with a yellow-design tie. Near him, his young son, Cameron, clutched a red rose for his grandmother.

Daughter Loraine Marie "Laurie" Buffett McGuane, who trains horses in Montana, was next to her husband, Thomas McGuane, a well-known novelist. McGuane had delivered the eulogy at the funeral for J.D. Buffett.

The third and youngest sibling, close by, was Lucy Anne "Lulu" Buffett, who runs a south Baldwin County seafood restaurant, "Lulu's Sunset Grill," which Peet's liked to frequent. In a Register profile in April, 2002, Lulu told how she had returned to coastal Alabama after years venturing far and wide in order to help care for Peets after her stroke.

Lucy's daughter, Melanie — one of J.D.'s and Peets' nine grandchildren and four great-

Peets' philosophy

The following are dated December 2001 and were handed out on cards at the Tuesday funeral Mass for Mary Loraine Peets Buffett, who died Thursday

1. Read often, including the classics.
2. Accept everyone for who they are, not for what they do.
3. Be well traveled.
4. Learn to be a listener. Shhhh!
5. Live by the sea.
6. Listen to your spirit and find joy.
7. Education, like money, doesn't make you happy or successful, but it sure helps.
8. Love AND family are the best things we have.

grandchildren filling the pews — led a responsive reading of the 23rd Psalm during the service.

The musical selections from the church's hymnal, "Be Not Afraid," and "Let There Be Peace on Earth," were complemented by an a cappella rendering during Communion of "Amazing Grace."

Later, when Ed Bradley finished his eulogy, he listed Peets' philosophy, including, "Read often, including the classics," "Accept everyone for who they are, not for what they do," and "Love and family are the best things we have."

As Bradley walked back to his pew he passed Peets' casket and laid his hand upon it, momentarily, in final farewell.

Peets Buffett was buried at a private ceremony following the service.

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BUFFET - LUMPKIN BUFFET

James Delaney and Hilda Seymour Buffett, a brother, William Norman Buffett; and a sister, Catherine Buffett Rappoport.

Survivors include two sons, Baxter Lumpkin of Pascagoula, and Mark (Vicki) Lumpkin of Ocean Springs, Miss.; a daughter, Tricia (Larry) Penton of Huntsville, Ala.; one brother, J.D. Buffett of Daphne, Ala.; eight grandchildren, Patrick Lumpkin, Angie Kennington, Aaron Penton, Ryan Penton, Jonathan Penton, Nicholas Penton, Jed Lumpkin, and Allison Lumpkin; one great-grandchild, Brady Lumpkin.

Grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

Visitation will be Thursday, Dec. 12, from 6-9 p.m., at the O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home with Rosary at 7 p.m.

Funeral service will be Friday, Dec. 13, at 10 a.m., from Our Lady of Victories Church with Father Gerard Cleary and Father Bernie Ferrell officiating.

Interment will follow at Machpelah Cemetery in Pascagoula, Miss.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Senior Citizens Center or St. Vincent De Paul, P. O. Box 368, Pascagoula, Miss., 39568.

Arrangements are by O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula, Miss.



LUMPKIN
Patricia Buffett Lumpkin, 81, of Pascagoula, Miss., died Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2002, in Pascagoula, Miss. Mrs. Lumpkin was born Aug. 3, 1921, in Pascagoula, Miss.

She was a lifelong resident of Pascagoula. She was the former secretary for the "Golden Age Club", a member of the Pascagoula Senior Center and a Community Volunteer. She was also a member of Our Lady of Victories Church in Pascagoula, Miss.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Roy B. Lumpkin, Sr.; her parents, Captain

R.K.

BUFFETT

William "Billy" Buffett, 65, 4409 Scarlet Oaks Dr., Gautier, died Saturday, Oct. 26, 1991, in Singing River Hospital. He was born July 16, 1926, in Pascagoula. Mr. Buffett was past commander of Pascagoula V.F.W., lifetime member of the American Legion, and member of Elks Lodge, Pascagoula. He was King of the Elks Carnival Ball in 1978, was a U. S. Navy veteran of World War II, was a 31 year member of the U. S. Merchant Marine, and was a retired Merchant Seaman. Mr. Buffett was also a member of the Marine Engineers Benevolent Association. He was preceded in death by his parents, Captain and Mrs. J. D. Buffett.

Survivors include his wife, Joyce Buffett, Gautier; one son, Richard Delaney Buffett, Gautier; two sisters, Patricia Lumpkin, Pascagoula, and Catherine Rappoport, Canton, Ohio; one brother, James Delaney Buffett, Daphne, Ala.; nieces; nephews; and other relatives.

Visitation will be tonight, Oct. 28, from 6-9 p.m. at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home with an Elks Ceremony at 7:30 p.m.

Funeral service will be Tuesday, Oct. 29, at 11 a.m. in the funeral home chapel.

Interment will be in Machpelah Cemetery in Pascagoula, with military honors conducted at graveside. Arrangements by O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula.

PASCAGOULA - (Our Lady of Victories Parish) - Hubert P. Seymour, 68, died May 23. Rev. Michael Flannery officiated at the funeral service. Survivors are two sisters, Mrs. J. D. Buffett, Pascagoula and Mrs. H. V. Spavin, Tampa, Fla.; and two brothers, Norman Seymour of Tuscaloosa, Ala., and Bernard J. Seymour of Mobile.

1971

RK.

Deaths

O'BRYANT-O'KEEFE
FUNERAL HOMES, INC

Serving the
Pascagoula, Moss
Point and Gautier
areas.

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762-4311

BUFFETT

Mrs. Hilda N. Buffett, 91, 1814 Parsley Ave., Pascagoula, died Thursday, April 6, 1989, in Pascagoula. Mrs. Buffett was born Oct. 30, 1897, in Scranton, Miss., and was a lifelong resident of Jackson County. She was a retired homemaker and a lifelong member of Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church. She was a member of the Homemakers Club of Bayou Casotte, the OLV Altar Society and the OLV Life. Mrs. Buffett was preceded in death by her husband, Captain James D. Buffett.

Survivors are two sons, J. D. Buffett, Daphne, Ala., and W. N. "Billy" Buffett, Gautier; two daughters, Mrs. Roy (Patsy) Lumpkin, Pascagoula, and Mrs. Jack (Catherine) Rappoport, North Canton, Ohio; a sister, Mrs. Blanche Spavin, Land of Lakes, Fla.; seven grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be Sunday, April 9, at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home from 6-8 p.m. Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m.

Funeral service will be Monday, April 10, at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church.

Interment will be in Machpelah Cemetery.

Arrangements by O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula.

Ala., a U.S. Army funeral home, Inc., 3153 Dauphin Street Extension, west of Sage Avenue.
SEYMOUR 1971
Mr. Hubert Paul (Bub) Seymour - A native of Pascagoula, Miss., and a resident of Mobile for 40 years, died in a local hospital, Sunday, May 23, 1971, at 8:30 p.m. Mr. Seymour was a member of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Parish and is survived by two sisters, Mrs. J. D. Buffett Sr. of Pascagoula, Miss., and Mrs. H. V. Spavin of Tampa, Fla.; two brothers, Bernard Seymour and Norman Seymour, both of Mobile; nieces, nephews and other relatives. Funeral services will be held from O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula, Miss., Tuesday, May 25, 1971 at 2:30 p.m. Interment will be in Pascagoula, Miss. Funeral arrangements by Radney Funeral Home, Dauphin Street Extension.
TEW
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Mos. stine
Interment. Have, Memorial Park.
Wake and on the Rosary on
Friday night 8 o'clock p.m. in
the Chapel of the Roses of the funeral home.
Arrangements by Labat-Charbonnet.
BABIN-On Thursday morning, March 17, 1966, MRS. HARRIETT BRAUD BABIN, beloved wife of Richard J. Babin, mother of Ben R. Babin, Mrs. August Lura Koenig, Mrs. Ruth Kenison of Duplessis, La., and the late Lee Ollen Babin, sister of Henry and Shelton Braud of Gonzales, Alvin Braud of Fairbanks, Alaska, Mrs. J. P. Gautreau of Gonzales, Mrs. Bessie Berteau of Duplessis, La., Mrs. Lillian Karrington of Houston, Tex., also survived by 18 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, age 73 years, a native of Gonzales, La.
Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral. Services from Ourso Gonzales Funeral Home of Gonzales, La., on Friday, March 18, 1966, at 11:00 o'clock a.m. Religious services at the St. Theresa Catholic Church in Gonzales, La. Interment in the Church Cemetery.
Arrangements by Ourso Gonzales Funeral Home.

O'BRYANT-O'KEEFE
FUNERAL HOME, INC.
4811 Telephone Rd., Pascagoula
Roy T. O'Bryant, Funeral Director

SEYMOUR 1971

Hubert (Bud) Paul Seymour, 67, died at 8:30 Sunday in the Cogburn Nursing Home in Mobile where he had been confined for three months. A native of Pascagoula, born April 16, 1904 and had resided at 205 Church St., Mobile for the past 25 years. Mr. Seymour was a Merchant Seaman, retiring five years ago. A member of the Seafarers' International Union of North America. Survivors include two sisters, Mrs. J. D. Buffett of Pascagoula; Mrs. H. V. Spavin of Tampa, Fla.; two brothers, Norman Seymour of Tuscaloosa; Bernard J. Seymour of Mobile; nieces, nephews and other relatives. Friends may call from 7 till 10 Monday night at the O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, 4811 Telephone Rd., Pascagoula. Rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. Services are scheduled for 2:30 Tuesday from the chapel of the funeral home with Monsse, James J. Harmon of Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church in charge. Interment will be in the Macpelah Cemetery.

BUFFETT 25



ROGERS

Marguerite Lucille Rogers, 77, of Pascagoula, Miss., died Tuesday, February 3, 1998 in Pascagoula, Miss. She was born July 30, 1920 in Laurel, Miss. and has been a resident of Pascagoula for approximately 56 years. She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Pascagoula and Eastern Star. She was preceded in death by her father, David Jonathan Vincent; mother, Winnie Wilbur Vincent; two sisters, Joyce Buffett and Marie Vinzant.

Survivors include her husband, Elvin Rogers, Pascagoula; son and daughter-in-law, David and Mary Anne Rogers, Mobile, Ala.; sister, Mrs. Johnny (Jeanette) McCaskill, Laurel, Miss.; four grandchildren; five nieces; and three nephews.

Visitation will be Thursday, February 5, 1998, 6:00-8:00 p.m., at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula.

Funeral service will be Friday, February 6, 1998, 10:00 a.m., at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula, with the Rev. Earl Greenough officiating.

Interment will be in Jackson County Memorial Park, Pascagoula, Miss.

Arrangements by O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula, Miss.

OBITUARIES



BUFFETT

Dorothy Joyce Buffett, 72, of Gautier, Miss., died Tuesday, January 27, 1998 in Pascagoula, Miss. She was born on July 15, 1925 in Laurel, Miss. and has been a resident of Pascagoula for approximately 46 years. She managed the floral department at Jerry Lee's in Pascagoula. She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Moss Point, American Auxiliary, VFW Auxiliary, and Elks Auxiliary. She was a past queen for the Elks BPOE 1120 and VFW. She was also a past duchess for many other organizations. She was preceded in death by her husband, William M. "Billy" Buffett; father, David Jonathan Vincent; and mother, Winnie Wilbur Vincent.

Survivors include her stepson, Richard Delaney Buffett, Pascagoula; sisters, Mrs. Elvin (Marguerite) Rogers, Pascagoula; Mrs. Johnny (Jeanette) McCaskill, Laurel, Miss.; nine nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be Wednesday, January 28, 1998, 6:00-9:00 p.m. at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula with Rosary at 6:00 p.m.

Funeral service will be Thursday, January 29, 1998, 10:00 a.m., at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Moss Point with Father Dominick Fullam and Father Patrick Hayes officiating.

Interment will be in Machpelah Cemetery, Pascagoula, Miss.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Humane Society of the U. S., 2100 L. Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037.

Arrangements by O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula, Miss.

Dorothy "Joyce" Buffett, 72, of Gautier, Miss., died January 26, 1998. O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula, Miss.

R.K.

BUFFETT

goula, Miss.

2-20-97

RAPPOPORT

Catherine B. Rappoport, 73, of North Canton, Ohio, died Sunday, February 16, 1997 in Canton. She was born August 19, 1923 in Pascagoula, Miss., to the late Captain James DeLaney and Hilda (Seymour) Buffett. She graduated from Pascagoula High School and attended Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College and Tulane University. Mrs. Rappoport was an executive secretary with ABC/Paramount Gulf Theatre's in New Orleans during the 1940s and 1950s. She came to Canton, Ohio with her husband, Jack Rappoport and became the Canton Office Manager of Grant-Holladay Construction Company, overseeing the Ohio and Kentucky Development Operations. Catherine was a member of Little Flower Catholic Church. She was preceded in death by a brother, William Buffett and brother-in-law, Roy Lumpkin.

Survivors include her husband, Jack Rappoport; sister, Patricia Lumpkin, Pascagoula; brother, J.D. Buffett, Daphne, Ala.; sister-in-law, Joyce Buf-

fett, Gautier; nieces and nephews, Baxter Lumpkin, Tricia Penton, Mark Lumpkin, Jimmy Buffett, Laurie McQuane, Lucy Buffett, Richard Buffett; numerous other relatives.

Visitation will be held Friday, February 21, 1997 from 9:00 until 10:00 a.m. at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula, Miss.

Funeral service will be held Friday, February 27, 1997 at 10:00 a.m. from Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church, Pascagoula, Miss.

Interment will be in Machpelah Cemetery, Pascagoula, Miss.

Arrangements by O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula, Miss.

CONDOLENCES: To the family of Catherine B. Rappoport who died recently. Please keep her in your prayers. May she share in the glory of the Risen Christ. Rest in peace.

BUFFETT

CATHERINE MARIE BUFFETT RAPPOPORT, 73, of North Canton, Ohio died Sunday, February 16, 1997. Arrangements incomplete by O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula, Miss.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
CATHERINE RAPPOPORT

August 19, 1923
February 16, 1997

The light of God surrounds
me, the love of God enfolds me, the
power of God protects me, the
presence of God watches over
me. Wherever I am, God is.

O'BRYANT-O'KEEFE FUNERAL HOME
PASCAGOULA, MS

R.K.

POITEVIN

Ellwood Cowan Poitevin, 89, 404 Lake Ave., Pascagoula, was dead on arrival at Singing River Hospital Tuesday, Dec. 27, 1977. Mr. Poitevin was born Aug. 15, 1888, in Moss Point and had been a resident of Pascagoula for 85 years. He was the former owner of Poitevin Brothers Shipyard and Singing River Decoy Co., and also owned and operated Poitevin Marine Docks. He was a World War I Army veteran and a member of Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church. Mr. Poitevin was the son of the late Paul Marcelle Poitevin and Mary Isabel Flechas Poitevin and the grandson of the late Dr. Auguste Poitevin of Aix, France, and Palmes Poitevin of Pensacola, Fla., who were pioneer families of Pascagoula.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Ozie Lennep Poitevin, Pascagoula; two sons, J. Marcelle Poitevin, Pascagoula, and Phillip A. Poitevin, Jackson; five daughters, Mrs. Robert J. (Mary Virginia) O'Sullivan, Mrs. Anthony N. (Darla) Lawrence Jr., and Mrs. Manuel L. (Angela) Bosarge III, all of Pascagoula, Mrs. Wallace R. (Phyllis) Devers, Moss Point, and Mrs. Michael J. (Carol) Kilcher, Columbus, Ohio; one sister, Mrs. George (Camille) Rodriguez, Pascagoula; 23 grandchildren; and other relatives.

Friends may call tonight, Dec. 28, at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home from 6-9 p.m. Rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. Prayer services will be held Thursday, Dec. 29, at 9:30 a.m. from the funeral home chapel followed by Requiem Mass at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church. The Right Reverend Monsignor James J. Hannon will act as celebrant. Interment will be in Greenwood Cemetery with full military honors.

Arrangements by O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home.

12-A—Mississippi Press Tuesday, December 27,

Deaths

O'BRYANT-O'KEEFE FUNERAL HOME, INC.

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Falls Funeral Service
affiliated with
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SEYMOUR

Norman Hulbert "Tut" Seymour, 72, 3911 Moffat Court, Mobile, died Saturday, Dec. 24, 1977, at a Mobile hospital. Mr. Seymour was born April 15, 1905, in Pascagoula and had been a resident of Mobile for 20 years. He was retired from the maintenance department of the City of Mobile and was a member of Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church.

Survivors are one brother, B. J. Seymour, Mobile; two sisters, Mrs. J. D. (Hilda) Buffett, Pascagoula, and Mrs. H. V. (Blanche) Spavin, Tampa, Fla.; and other relatives.

Friends may call tonight, Dec. 27, at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home from 6-9 p.m. Rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. Services will be Wednesday, Dec. 28, at 2 p.m. from the funeral home chapel with the Right Reverend Monsignor James J. Hannon officiating. Interment will be in Machpelah Cemetery.

Arrangements by O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home.

RODRIGUEZ

Mrs. Camille Lillian Poitevin Rodriguez, 84, 606 Lake Ave., Pascagoula, died Thursday, Oct. 28, 1982, at Singing River Hospital. Born March 10, 1898, Mrs. Rodriguez was a lifelong resident of Pascagoula. She was a member of Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church, Pascagoula.

She is survived by her husband, George W. Rodriguez, Pascagoula; one son, George Edwin Rodriguez, Dallas, Texas; and other relatives.

Friends may call from 7 to 9 tonight, Oct. 29, 1982, at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home where Rosary will be said at 8 p.m. Funeral service will be held at 9:40 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 30, 1982, at the funeral home chapel, followed by Mass at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church. The Rev. Patrick McDermott will officiate.

Interment will be in Greenwood Cemetery, Pascagoula.

O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

RK

2—The Mississippi Press R
Sunday, July 9, 1972

Floridian electrocuted accidentally

OCALA, Fla. — A resident of this city whose parents are former Pas - Pointers was accidentally electrocuted Friday afternoon while installing a mobile home, according to reports.

Kenneth George Flechas, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Joseph Flechas Sr., Ocala, was pronounced dead on arrival at a nearby hospital, reports show. Flechas had just completed his sophomore year at Florida State University. He was born Oct. 7, 1952.

He is survived by his parents, a twin brother, Keith Jeffrey Flechas, and two younger brothers, Alfred Joseph Flechas Jr. and Eugene Duncan Flechas, all of Ocala; a grandmother, Mrs. M. M. Flechas Sr., Pascagoula, and several aunts, uncles and cousins in the Pascagoula - Moss Point area.

Flechas' mother is the former Myrtle Duncan of Moss Point. His father is originally from Pascagoula.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday with a Folk Mass of the Resurrection at Blessed Trinity Catholic Church in Ocala. Arrangements are being handled by Roberts Funeral Home in the Florida City.

FAILS FUNERAL SERVICE

611 W. Live Oak - Pascagoula

FLECHAS

Mrs. Louise Walker Flechas, 94, passed away Tuesday, September 19th in Singing River Hospital. She was a resident of 2917 Magnolia St., Pascagoula, and a life long resident. Mrs. Flechas was the widow of the late Miguel Martin Flechas.

Survivors are three sons: Ferdie W. and Miguel M. Flechas Jr., both of Pascagoula, and Alfred J. Flechas of Ocala, Fla.; six daughters, Mrs. Condalaura Browne and Mrs. Anais Penola, both of Pascagoula, Mrs. Victoria Beech, Laurel Ms., Mrs. Louise Lyons, Alexandria, La., Mrs. Lillian Lynch, Baton Rouge, La., and Mr. Mary A. Sheridan, Hayward, Calif.; one sister, Mrs. Alice Tucei, Biloxi; one brother, Armand K. Walker, Pascagoula; 28 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Friends may call tonight (Wednesday) at Falls Funeral Home, Pascagoula, from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. Rosary will be at 8 p.m.

Prayer services will be from the Funeral Home, 9:45 a.m. Thursday morning, September 21st and Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church at 10 a.m.

Interment will be in Krebs Cemetery, Pascagoula.

1972

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FE
INC
a, Gauffes
scatawpa
on call:
2-4311
Box 1462
39568-1462
JA PFDI CAMA

Mrs. Flechas is dead at 94

Funeral services are scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday for Mrs. Louise Walker Flechas, 94, a life-long resident of Pascagoula.

Mrs. Flechas, wife of the late Miguel Martin Flechas, resided at 2917 Magnolia St. She is survived by six daughters and three sons: Mrs. Condalaura Brown, Mrs. Anais Penola, Ferdie Flechas and Miguel M. Flechas Jr., all of Pascagoula; Mrs. Victoria Beech, Laurel; Mrs. Louise Lyons, Alexandria, La.; Mrs. Lillian Lynch, Baton Rouge, La.; Mrs. Mary A. Sheridan, Hayward, Calif.; and Alfred J. Flechas, Ocala, Fla.; one sister, Mrs. Alice Tucei of Biloxi; a brother, Armand K. Walker of Pascagoula; 28 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Requiem Mass will be held at Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church with interment in Cemetery.

OBITUARIES

FLECHAS

Ferdinand W. "Ferdie" Flechas, Sr., 88, of Pascagoula, Miss., died Saturday, July 18, 1998 in Ocean Springs, Miss. He was a lifelong resident of Pascagoula and retired as a Dock Master from Ingalls Shipbuilding after 34 years of service. He was also, a master carpenter and boat builder. He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and a life member of Pascagoula Elks Lodge #1120. He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Flechas, Sr. and his sister, Victoria Beech.

Survivors include his daughter, Genevieve "Geno" Flechas; son, F. W. "Butch" Flechas, Jr.; step-daughter, Betty Cox; step-son, Wallie Cox, all of Pascagoula; five sisters, Condalaura Browne and Anais Penola, both of Pascagoula, Louise Davy, Opelousas, La., Lillian Lynch, Baton Rouge, La., Mary Azalie Sheridan, Oakland, Calif.; two brothers, M. M. Flechas, Jr. Pascagoula and Alfred Flechas, Ocala, Fla.; four grandchildren and four great grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be Tuesday, July 21, 1998, 9:30-10:30 at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home.

Funeral mass will follow at Sacred Heart Catholic Church at 11:00 a.m. with Father James Taylor officiating.

Interment will be in Machpelah Cemetery, Pascagoula, Miss.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Saltillo Mission, c/o Sacred Heart Catholic Church, P. O. Box 2190, Pascagoula, Miss. 39569.

Arrangements by O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula, Miss.

R.K.

POITEVIN

Mr. O'Neil Francis Poitevin, 76, 3678 Cumberland Dr., Moss Point, died February 29, 1992 in Moss Point, Miss. He was born September 26, 1915 in Pascagoula. He was a native of Pascagoula and a resident of Moss Point for the last 27 years and retired from International Paper as maintenance Superintendant after 44 years of service. Mr. Poitevin was a member of Knights of Columbus and a past member of The Plumbing Board of The City of Moss Point. He was also a member of St. Joseph Parrish Catholic Church, Moss Point. He was preceded in death by his parents, Eugene P. and Emma T. Bishop Poitevin; 2 sisters, Mary Jeanette and Helen Rose Poitevin; 1 daughter, Betty June Poitevin Hughes.

Survivors include his wife, Vivian Ruble Poitevin, Moss Point; one sister, Mrs. Lucille Bodden, Moss Point; five grandchildren, Debra Goff Frederic, Pascagoula, Thomas Ellvin Goff, Jr., Auburn, Ala., Donna Marie Christensen, Summerville, S.C., James H. Charlton, Jr., Gainesville, Fla., Deanne Rose Hughes, Pascagoula; nine great-grandchildren; one son-in-law, Alfred V. Hughes, Pascagoula; one brother-in-law, Bobby Holden.

Visitation is tonight Mon., March 2, at O'Bryant - O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula, from 6-9 p.m. Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m.

Funeral service will be Tuesday, March 3, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Moss Point. Mass will be held at 10 a.m. with Father Hayes officiating.

Interment will be in Macheplah Cemetery, Pascagoula.

Arrangements by O'Bryant - O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula.

POITEVIN

Mrs. Ozie (Lennep) Poitevin, 74, 410 Lake Ave., Pascagoula, died Friday, May 9, 1986, at Singing River Hospital. Mrs. Poitevin was born July 12, 1911, in Escatawpa and was a lifetime resident of the county. She was a member of Jackson Avenue Baptist Church in Pascagoula. Mrs. Poitevin's family was among the first settlers of the Escatawpa-Moss Point area.

Survivors are two sons, Joseph M. Poitevin Sr., Pascagoula, and Phillip A. Poitevin, Camden, Miss.; five daughters, Mrs. Mary V. O'Sullivan, Mrs. Darla Lawrence and Mrs. Angela K. Bosarge, all of Pascagoula, Mrs. Carol A. Kilcher, Columbus, Ohio, and Mrs. Phyllis A. Devers, Moss Point; one brother, Murray Lennep, Houma, La.; three sisters, Mrs. Bertice Forsman, Mrs. Christina Clark and Mrs. Mary Alice Edwards, all of Pascagoula; 25 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 6 to 9 tonight, Sunday, May 11, at O'Bryant Funeral Home, Pascagoula, where Rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Monday, May 12, from the chapel, with the Rev. Tommy Kendrick and the Rev. John Burke officiating.

Interment will be in Greenwood Cemetery, Pascagoula.

BROWNE

Allan Minor Browne, 90, 1007 Community Ave., Pascagoula, died Sunday, Aug. 13, 1978, at his home. Mr. Browne was born Feb. 2, 1888, in Nairn, La., and had lived most of his life in Pascagoula. He was a retired accountant with International Paper Co., a member of Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Condalaura Flechas Browne, Pascagoula; his daughter, Mrs. Kay Marie Perez DeLeon, Mexico City, Mex.; nieces; nephews; and other relatives.

Visitation will be Tuesday, Aug. 15, at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home from 6:30-9 p.m. Rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. Prayer services will be held Wednesday, Aug. 16, at 10:30 a.m. at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home followed by Requiem Mass at 11 a.m. from Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church. The Rev. Anthony Arguillas will officiate.

Arrangements by O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home.

OBITUARIES

FLECHAS

Mr. Alfred J. Flechas, 86, of Ocklawaha, Fla., died Feb. 17, 2002, at his home. Mr. Flechas was an Industrialist, Inventor and Inn Keeper. He was born in Pascagoula, Miss., and was a resident of Ocklawaha, Fla. for 59 years. He was a member of Blessed Trinity Catholic Church. Alfred and his wife, Myrtle, started the Flechbilt Handbag Factory on Highway 200 in Ocala in 1948. He was a charter member of the Civitan Service Club, holder of Patent Number 1748, and developer of Dogwood Acres. Mr. Flechas was a WWII Army-Air Corp. Veteran stationed at Greenville Aviation School.

He was preceded in death by his sisters, Condralaura Brown, Victoria Beach, Mary Azalie Sheridan; brother, Ferdie Flechas; and son, Kenneth Flechas.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Myrtle Flechas of Ocklawaha, Fla.; sons, Keith Flechas, Alfred Flechas, Jr., and Gene Flechas, all of Ocala, Fla.; sister, Anais Penola, Pascagoula; brother, Miguel (Mike) Flechas, Pascagoula; sister, Lillian Lynch, Baton Rouge, La.; sister, Lou Daves, Opelousas, La.; five grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

Arrangements by Roberts Funeral Home, Ocala, Fla.

R.K.

SER

MAY 15, 1942

BUFFETT

Honor Mr. And Mrs. J. D. Buffett With Dance

A group of the close friends of Mr. and Mrs. James D. Buffett honored them at a dance at the Comet Club on last Saturday evening, as a post-nuptial courtesy following their wedding a few days before.

Among those taking part on the evening's pleasure were Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Buffett, Jr.; Miss Marie Boney (Biloxi), Mr. and Mrs. Ray Lumpkin, and Charles Hamilton. Others joined the group during the evening.

Post-Nuptial Festivity For Newly-Weds

Among the several festivities centering around Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Buffett since their recent marriage was a chicken dinner at the home of the former's uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pelham, on Sunday last.

The table was laid in a shady spot on the grounds of the Pelham home in Gautier where great platters of crisply fried chicken and other good things to eat were temptingly displayed.

The guests were confined to members of the family connection and close relatives. They were Mr. and Mrs. James Buffett, Jr.; Captain and Mrs. J. D. Buffett, Sr., and their family, of Pascagoula, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Tew of Mobile, and Mr. and Mrs. Lumpkin.

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Marsala and Montfalcone, Wood Ships, Were Built In Pascagoula In Old Days

Along with the thousands of graduates of War Training schools who have recently turned to shipbuilding here, there are also plenty of old-time shipbuilders and blue-water sailors around. Among the latter is Capt. James Buffet, Outfitting Dept. leader-man.

"Montfalcone" Built Here

Capt. Buffet was in command of the "Montfalcone", last of the wood ships sailing from the old International Yard, which turned out ships on the site of the Ingalls Yard during World War I. The "Montfalcone" was a sister ship of the five-masted barkentine "Marsala".

Buffett says he took over the "Montfalcone" in the old slip just west of the site occupied now by the rigging loft. "I took with me on that voyage my wife and baby—the baby, by the way, is now a staff sergeant in the U. S. Army Air Corps."

Office Boy Now on Hull 297

"I loaded my first cargo at New Orleans for Mr. Andrew Jackson Higgins, who is now known the world over. The office boy for my agent at New Orleans was a young man by the name of Ryan, who is now Chief Officer of that fine Ingalls-built ship we knew as Hull 297.

"I could tell you about a tropical hurricane we ran into three days out of New Orleans that was a beauty, but the good ship behaved swell, and we came through O. K."

Pascagoula Boats Make History

A clipping from a Havana paper of the time tells of the arrival of the "Montfalcone" referring to her as "one of the largest sailing vessels that ever entered the harbor . . . of 2,412 ton displacement and . . . with the largest cargo of lumber ever brought in a sailing ship to Havana."

Then as now Pascagoula-built ships made history.

Marsala was one of those great wooden ships built during the First World War, under the encouragement of the Emergency Fleet Corporation and later the Shipping Board.

Like many ships built down in the warm waters of our South, she was unusually large, fairly well rigged and had a somewhat oversized forecastle area due to broad spread of her bows. Marsala was of high freeboard and had an unusually heavy sheer.

Marsala slid down the ways of the International Ship Building Company at Pascagoula, Mississippi, as the City of Vicksburg in 1919. Like so many ships built under the Emergency Fleet supervision, she wasn't ready for sea until long after hostilities had ceased in Europe. As a result, little work was in prospect for her. As the days lengthened into months she found less to do and after a few feeble attempts at trade, joined the countless other ships in the great fleet of idle vessels.

The spring of 1936 found Marsala moored in Kil Van Kull along with other barkantines of the same vintage. Montfalcone, the old City of Austin and the infamous H. W. Brown. Time passed, unnoticed as these ships sat in the mud along with the handsome old six-master Wyoming, the smart Dustin G. Cressy and many others whose names were dimmed by weather.

Made Training Ship

Then, surprisingly one cool morning in the spring of 1933, she drifted in to anchor at New London, Connecticut, her white hull glistening in the sunlight, redressed with new white sails and shining spars. She must have made a handsome sight.

More than one working vessel that has had the good fortune to become a theoretical yacht has haunted some pretty handsome lines with the aid of white paint! She arrived as a training ship under command of Captain Oliver Bond. She spent the summer there while efforts were made to induce more young men into the art of ship operation.

The warm summer passed. Marsala basked in the sunshine and enjoyed a pleasant existence as the object of much curiosity. Then suddenly and without warning New England experienced its most devastating hurricane on

September 13. Marsala, like everything and everybody, was caught unaware. The winds raced and the waters of Long Island Sound surged into the harbor. Everyone knows the appalling loss of life and property. Lighthouse supply ships, barges, yachts, towboats were piled in a hopeless hodge-podge across the railroad tracks and piers. But what of the Marsala? Of course, she dragged her anchors and was battered, but she did not fail. Her bowsprit and some of her light gear were carried away.

Sails for More Trouble

Swift repairs soon put her right and on November 22 she sailed with a crew of twelve and twenty cadets for Norfolk. She sailed, but only into more troubles. A gale struck her off Cape Charles. Since her radio was out of service, Captain Bond had to depend upon his glass for anticipation of weather conditions in the offing. To quote his own words, "But the glass was falling steadily in the face of the northeaster all day . . . I took in all sails but then all at once the wind struck her." She limped into Norfolk with her masts and yards gone, but still dry below. The last we heard of her, she was still down Chesapeake Bay way, still carrying on her work as the American Nautical Academy.

Marsala's brief specifications are as follows:

Western and southern lumber in her planking, decks, etc., oak frames, pine decks. Built in 1919, designed and rigged as a five mast barkantine. She had four large and two smaller hatches. American registry, with home port in New York. Registered 2,422 tons; net, 2,173 tons. Measurements: 234.3 feet long, 45.4 feet. Signals LTWC.

Note: Effort was made recently to locate her hull around Norfolk, Newport News, etc., but no one seems to know about her, or what finally became of her.

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Shipbuilding - EARLY

Early
Shipbuilding

AP 2 1943

Chronicle April 5, 1946

President
e-President
President
ce-President
YAT, Ass't Vice-President
RG, Jr., Ass't Cashier
EATHERBURY, Ass't Cashier
TON, Ass't Cashier
CLEOD, Ass't Cashier
vices.

Miss Point Bank
PASCAGOULA

OPENINGS

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Williamson and daughter spent the week with relatives in Hattiesburg.

Mrs. M. M. Watkins of Handsboro, Miss., was a guest Tuesday of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Rollins and visited with other friends.

Miss Jane Coulson spent a few days this week with friends in Meridian.

Mrs. W. W. Barber and Mrs. Lynn Hooper were visitors to Mobile Monday.

Mrs. J. C. Avent and Mrs. J. T. Bishop were visitors to Mobile Wednesday.

Mrs. R. E. Felton will leave this week to join Mr. Felton in Birmingham, where they will make their future home.

Ann Mary Sylvester, daughter of Colonel and Mrs. C. W. Sylvester, Pensacola, Fla., was a guest of Dottie Mixson while her parents visited friends in Pascagoula.

Miss Duverynne Watts is visiting friends in San Antonio, Tex.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Crabtree have returned from a motor trip to Greensboro, Ala., where they visited with the latter's

street is recuperating nicely from a sudden illness that necessitated six days' treatment at the Jackson County hospital. Mrs. Watz was moved home last week.

Mrs. Julius McIlwain and son Tommy and Miss Marilla Folsom motored to Brewton, Ala., Friday to which Miss Folsom was returning after a three-weeks' visit with Mrs. McIlwain, who is her niece, and other members of the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil moved Saturday into the residence that they bought some time ago and which they have been renovating. It was formerly the property of Mr. and Mrs. Graham Hollister and is on Columbus Drive.

There will be an important meeting of the Woman's Auxillary to the Pascagoula post of the American Legion Thursday evening, April 11, at 7:30. A full attendance is urged. It will be held at the Odd Fellows hall on Krebs avenue.

Miss Lela Moore plans to depart for her home at Hazelhurst during the weekend, after a visit in the home of her sister, Mrs. M. L. Cagle.

J. D. Buffett arrived at Mobile from Norfolk, Va., the early part of the week and stopped over for a visit home before going to New Orleans for assignment to another ship. He had taken the S. S. Major General Robert Olds to Norfolk for decommissioning.

With the return of William N. Buffett to the States after seven months of service as gunner's mate with the United States Navy in the Pacific area, this will bring all the men of the family back to America as J. D. Buffett received his discharge in April. William Buffett arrived last week at San Francisco and expects to receive his release from the service sometime this month when he will return home.

The early part of the week marked the departure of Mr. and Mrs. R. B. McIlwain for Detroit. While there they expect to visit points in Canada and other places of interest. They made the trip by plane.

Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Sinquefield have as guests, the former's mother, Mrs. A. R. Sinquefield of Laurel, Miss. With O. A. Sinquefield, who was down from Perkinson Junior college for the weekend, the family formed

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Felts and family plan to join relatives of Mrs. Felts in celebrating the birthday of her father, E. E. Bridges, at his home near Jackson during the weekend.

Paul Crane was a visitor in the home of his parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Crane during the early part of the week. Lt. Crane who is in the medical department of the army was en route from Baltimore, where he was formerly at Johns-Hopkins, to San Antonio where he is now stationed and where he will be joined later by Mrs. Crane.

Guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Ezell are their son, Major James Vernon Ezell and wife and baby daughter, Cynthia. They will remain here pending future plans. Major Ezell received his release from the service, March 6 at El Paso, Texas. They have been visiting in Cherokee, Iowa, since that time.

The Women's Business Circle of the First Presbyterian church had the pleasure, Sunday morning, of hearing a talk by Mrs. William Rule, missionary to the Congo who told of her experiences in the wilds of Africa. Mrs. Rule and her two children, who were guests of Mrs. J. C. Crane and family for several days, have returned to New Orleans where they are with Dr. Rule. The entire family are in the States while he and Mrs. Rule are on furlough from their mission station.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. McClellan were dinner guests of Mrs. J. M. Pollard at Theodore, Ala., Sunday, after which they visited friends in Mobile, returning home that evening.

Major Robert L. Walton arrived home Monday evening after having received his discharge at Westover Field, Ft. Devens, Mass., after having served as chaplain in the army. Major Walton stopped at Washington, D. C. for a visit with Congressman William Colmer and family and with his niece, Miss Virginia Howell who has just undergone a serious operation. He also visited with his daughter, Miss Barbara, who is attending the Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn. Mrs. Walton joined him at Mobile where they spent several days with friends. Major Walton expects to reenter

to take place has been postponed before April 20. It is the home of M. botham on North Spring streets.

Mr. and Mrs. arrived Tuesday where they home following ridge, Tenn. Th home in a Jackson.

A group of Miss have been days following the university. Thornton, Bobb Bryant, and St. low of Pascagoula of Kreole was a

Mr. and Mrs. 1706 Tucker street bile, Wednesday baseball game b trolit Tigers at Graves.

Logan M. Lew class, of the US a brief visit amoi W. W. Vandergr sins, the Revera F. Brantley. He en route from parents, Mr. and at Thomosville, G At the conclusion was driven as f leans by Mr. Br

Mr. and Mrs. ham, Jr. have r home at Birm they were called illness and suba the former's mo Beckham, Sr. M of Lubbock, and I man, of Houston, Beckham, who i to Pascagoula by already returned when the end ca

Mrs. P. J. Zeig Pascagoula street Friday her fathe burg and sister, Moss Point, Mr. Coggins and far Ala., were guests during the week

Harry Lindhart ed home from the ty hospital where a major operation is now well on t covery.

MYRTLE GUILLOT, Asst. Cashier
Pascagoula - Moss Point Bank
MOSS POINT PASCAGOULA

Buffett ...MOSS POINT... Social Events

Mrs. A. P. McArthur, Mr. and Mrs. John McArthur and daughter, Mary Day, and Miss Ella McArthur, spent Christmas Day with Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Coffin and other relatives in Mobile.

Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Britton and daughter, Helen, of Clearwater, Fla., spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Britton.

Guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Falls for the Christmas holidays were Dale and Andrew Gautier, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Smith of New Orleans and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd McCray of Mobile.

Misses Joyce, Jean and Joan Nelson were visitors to Mobile Monday.

Alvin West of Megehee, Ark., is enjoying a visit here with his aunt, Miss Mary McFarland and with a number of friends.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Galloway, former residents here, have returned to this city to make their home where they are being welcomed by a number of friends. Mr. and Mrs. Galloway are making their home at 802 Main street.

Mr. and Mrs. George Fitzner and son, George, and daughter, Celeste, of Mobile, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Fitzner and family Sunday.

Dottie Mixson of Baton Rouge, is enjoying a visit with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Overstreet.

Mrs. Nichols Viner of Columbus, Ohio, is visiting her mother, Mrs. Lila Blumer. Mrs. Viner and Mrs. Blumer have been visiting relatives this week in Gulfport and New Orleans.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bader and daughter, Sue, enjoyed the holidays with relatives in New Orleans and Baton Rouge.

Mrs. G. H. Barnes and Mrs. Jim Williams of Prentiss, Miss. Lawrence Blount of Collins have returned to their homes after spending the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Spann, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Flinn returned to their home in Greenville, Miss. Tuesday, after spending the holidays with Mrs. Flinn's parents, Dr. and Mrs. R. C. Eley.

Miss May McInnis has returned from a visit with her sister, Mrs. Rachel McGruder in Starkville, Miss.

Beverly Ann Boyett of Tampa, Fla., R. W. Boyett and R. W. Jr. of Jackson, and H. W. Jr. of Kentwood, La., returned to their homes last week after a visit with Mr. and Mrs. John Boyett and Mrs. George Boyett.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Jenkins and children of Austin, Texas, after a visit in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Renfro left for their home in Austin. Mr. and Mrs. Mach Duhe of Baton Rouge, were guests in the home of Mr. and

Mrs. Renfro and Mrs. Duhe's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Martin.

Friends of Mrs. C. P. Seaman will be sorry to hear of her accident on Christmas Eve. Mrs. Seaman fell from a table on which she was standing to change a light; she suffered severe bruises and was badly shaken from the fall.

Mr. and Mrs. William Northrop of Urich, Ala., spent the Christmas holidays in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Seaman.

The following college students will leave this week to resume their studies after spending the holidays in their homes: Misses Margie and Maggie Ruth Thomas, M. S. C. W.; Bill Thomas to Mississippi State; Jack and Tom Dickson to Ole Miss and Miss Lois Dickson, student nurse, to Touros Infirmary in New Orleans; Miss Helen Price to Mississippi Southern; Glenn Torres to the University of Alabama; and Charles Torres to Perkinson Junior College; Miss Shirley Elkin and Miss Claire Seidenspinner to M.S.C.W.; Miss Joyce Nelson to Lindenwood college in St. Charles, Mo.; Misses Marilyn Marre and Edre Mays to Perkinson Junior college; Bart DeLashmet, Mike Pressnos, Everette and Joe Harper, "Dynamite" Farragut and Bobby McIntosh to Ole Miss; Miss Barbara Watts to Southwestern in Memphis; and Miss Margarite Colley to the University of Illinois.

Gordon Hass returned this week from a visit with his parents in Fairfield, Ala.

Milton Peterzell has been enjoying a visit with relatives in Nyack, N. Y.

Mrs. J. C. Calhoun motored down from Mt. Olive and was a Christmas dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Graham.

A family reunion in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lowe on Christmas Day included Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Dailey and Miss Ann Dailey, Mr. and Mrs. William Lowe and daughter, Martha Jean, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Thomson and Mrs. M. A. Thomson, all of Mobile.

W. M. Dutton, general manager of the Mississippi Export Railroad was moved home Tuesday from the Jackson County hospital where he was under treatment for a broken ankle following a fall on Saturday, Dec. 19. Mr. Dutton is now well on the road to recovery.

MISS PETERZELL HONOREE

Miss Jackie Nelson entertained with an iced drink party in her home Saturday in honor of Miss June Peterzell. The honoree was presented with a bottle of perfume. Iced drinks and canapes were served during the evening to Joyce Armistead, Polly Fay Franklin, Edna Khayat, Pat Hawkins, Laura M. Mays, Marty McIntosh and Mary Day McArthur.

tier and Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Quinn.

Miss Mary Guest returned to New Orleans Tuesday, to resume her duties as member of the staff of the Oeschner Clinic after a Christmas visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Guest.

Guests in the home of Mrs. Ruth Koval during Christmas were her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Ferron M. Bryant and their son, Randy Gregory of Pensacola, who joined Mrs. Koval's son, Master Sergeant R. S. Koval who is home on a 15-day furlough. Sergeant Koval is stationed at the main department of distribution of war dead of the U. S. Marine Corps at Memphis where he is second in command.

Mrs. J. G. Kell and N. S. McGrath, Miss Dorothy Jonte, and Allen Dyson motored to Mobile Tuesday where Mr. Dyson went on a visit to Spring Hill college. The remainder of the party returned home that afternoon.

Tom Hegwood, leaves for Hattiesburg Tuesday to resume his studies at Mississippi Southern college after spending Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Hegwood at their home on River Road.

Mrs. Velma Tew and daughter, Anita Fay, returned Sunday from Calhoun City, Miss., where they spent Christmas with Mrs. Tew's mother and other relatives.

Friends of Warren B. Seely will be pleased to learn of his promotion to the post of traveling accountant for the L. & N. Railroad with headquarters at Mobile.

Mrs. Leonie Bufkin returned Sunday from Fayette, Miss., where she spent the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Harrison.

Christmas guests in the home of Mrs. C. A. Carrier have been Mr. and Mrs. Elchue Denton of Tunica, Miss., who remained with her over New Year. While here Mrs. Denton has been the center of much informal entertaining.

Among the girls from Mississippi State College for Women who have added to the social life of Pascagoula through the holidays are Misses Vivi Moore, Mary Evelyn Eubanks, Mable Pittman, Rita Joyce Krebs, Carolyn Vann and Martha Anne Bishop who return to their studies at Columbus Jan. 5.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Buffett, Jr., and family including Mrs. Buffett's mother, Mrs. Bessie Peets of Washington, who has been their guest, spent Christmas Day in the home of Mrs. Buffett's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Roberts at Gulfport. Mr. and Mrs. Buffett and Jimmie returned home that night but Mrs. Peets went on to New Orleans to visit her son and his family after which she will come to Pascagoula for a short stay before leaving for Washington after spending six weeks on the Gulf Coast.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Craven of Alligator, Miss., divided a Christmas visit with the latter's brother, and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Leatherbury, and other relatives.

Guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Dick, Jr., were Mrs. Dick's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Campbell of Oxnard who spent Dec. 21 with them before going to Cantonment, Fla., to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell. On Christmas Day they were joined there by Mr. and Mrs. Dick and daughter, Nancy Lois, to attend a family reunion.

as guests during Christmas and the weekend the latter's father, G. T. Catledge and her sister, Miss Lena Catledge. They were joined for the weekend by Mrs. Gene W. Clark and children, Gene, Jr., Charles and Linda of Gulfport. Mrs. Clark is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willis.

Allen Dyson, who is on the staff of the library of Loyola university at New Orleans, is spending the holidays with Mrs. N. S. McGrath and the Misses Jonte.

Miss Jane Herring is among the students at Ole Miss who will return to Oxford during the weekend, after a holiday visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Herring and family.

Sunday will mark the departure of Mrs. J. M. Adams and daughter, Miss Miriam, for Mt. Olive where the former will visit friends. From Mt. Olive Miss Adams goes on to resume her studies at Mississippi college at Clinton.

Sunday will mark the departure of W. W. Robinson and his daughter, Miss Betty Jean, for Clinton, where the latter will resume her studies at Mississippi College. They will be accompanied by Miss Betty Singsfield who is also attending the college.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Wesley Ahrens spent Christmas Eve and Day in Lyman as guests of the former's brother, F. Herman Ahrens and family. They had the pleasure of being with their niece, Mrs. Oliver Clark, Mr. Clark and children, a Pitty and Mittle Richards of Los Angeles, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Whittaker, Jr., and Mrs. Robert Whittaker who drove over from New Orleans for Christmas Day. The younger Mrs. Whittaker is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Herman Ahrens.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Case returned Saturday from Canonsburg, Pa., where they spent Christmas with relatives and friends.

C. J. Christian and son, Charles, Jr. and mother, Mrs. J. R. White, are spending this week visiting relatives and friends in Birmingham.

Miss Marie Evelyn Briggs has as guest this week a schoolmate from Ursuline Academy at New Orleans. She is Miss Ethel Langenstein and will visit with her until Sunday when they both return to their studies at the academy.

Mrs. Nelson McGrath and son, Mackie, came over from Mobile to

Billy Buffett, son of Captain and Mrs. J. D. Buffett enjoyed a Christmas holiday at home as his ship the army transport, "Pvt. Sadoo Muneori" is at present docked in New Orleans. However he expects to leave next week with Japan as the ship's probable destination. Mr. Buffett is a member of the Merchant Marine.

Mrs. J. D. Buffett was a visitor to Mobile, Monday.

Mrs. Arthur Schneider and children, Sandra, Mickey and Russell returned Saturday from New Orleans after visiting relatives here since the previous Monday. They were joined Christmas Day by the Reverend Arthur Schneider who brought them home Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Shepard had the pleasure of having their family circle complete for Christmas as their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Shepard came from Tampa to spend Christmas day and the weekend with them and Mrs. Shepard's sister, Miss Almee Davis came from New Orleans to visit with them until after the New Year.

Mrs. Marguerite Briggs is spending the holidays in Birmingham where she is a guest in the home of her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Briggs, Jr. and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Byrd had as guest over the weekend, Russell Coon of New Orleans.

Miss Joyce Olsen and Stella Duke and Robert Fox and Luke Wata of Mobile spent Saturday in Pascagoula as guests of Miss Marie Evelyn Briggs at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Briggs.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Scheffer and sons, Bert and Peter, of New Orleans were visitors in the home of Dr. Scheffer's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Scheffer, Saturday.

Mr. E. B. Martin and son, Edward, former summer residents of Pascagoula were over from New Orleans for a few hours visit with old friends, Friday. Mrs. Martin frequently returns to Pascagoula but this is the first time Mr. Martin has been here in six years, or before the war.

Mrs. J. E. Pounds and Miss Violet Ladner returned Monday from Cannelton, Ala., where they at-

After-Christmas
Clearance Sale
We Still Have A Good Selection of
DRESSES, COATS, SUITS, HATS
AND SWEATERS
ALL DRASTICALLY REDUCED
HURRY! These Won't Stay Long!
COWAN'S
LADIES APPAREL
106 S. Pascagoula Street Phone 103
Pascagoula

Buffett 22

Mr. and Mrs. Pelham Honor Birthday Of Sgt. J. D. Buffett

A pleasant event during the visit home of Staff Sergeant J. D. Buffett, Jr., was a dinner at which Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pelham entertained in his honor.

The Pelham home in Gautier was the setting for the hospitality.

A feature of the entertainment was a birthday cake for the dinner was in celebration of Sgt. Buffett's natal day.

Covers were laid for S. Sgt. J. D. Buffett and Mrs. Buffett; Captain and Mrs. J. D. Buffett, Sr.; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lumpkin; Miss Catherine Buffett, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Tew of Mobile, and Mr. and Mrs. Pelham. *Nov. 19, 1943*

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Buffett

Monday, July 21, 1969

MOBILE PRESS—3-C

A Winning Team

By LEE HAUG

Press Register Reporter

What does a young man with musical talent do today to launch a career? A good beginning is to sign a contract with a Nashville music company, and that is just what Jimmy Buffett has done.

Jimmy has been singing since his freshman year in college, and has had quite a bit of success. He has sung not only on his college campus, Mississippi Southern, but also in New Orleans, Biloxi, and Mobile. While singing here, Jimmy met a Mobile songwriter, Milton Brown, who took him to Nashville and introduced him to the people at Russell-Cason Music Co. They had him cut a demonstration session, liked what they heard, and sent him the contracts, which he signed last week.

In addition to his music contract, last week Jimmy acquired another asset, his new bride, the former Miss Margie Washichek. Mobilians will remember Margie for her activities as Miss USS Alabama, Azalea Trail maid, and Gayfer's Teen Board model. Margie says that her friends have tagged her as Jimmy's "number one fan," and she explains her role in her husband's career this way:

"I'm fairly critical, so Jimmy plays his songs for me first and I tell him what I think of them. But of course, his word is final. I also lend him moral support, believing that he is very talented, and I have all the confidence in the world that he will be a great success in the field of music."

As for his music style, and the purpose he hopes to achieve, Jimmy says, "My music is contemporary, along the line of John Hartford and Joni Mitchell. I would like to project a message that people will listen to and think about. And today, Nashville has become the center of the recording industry; I have always had intentions to go, and I am very excited that Russell-Cason is there."

So Jimmy Buffett will busy

himself in Nashville with writing and recording the music he enjoys most while his pretty young wife aids him with her encouragement and

confidence. With Jimmy's talent and Margie's enthusiasm, it's hard to doubt that some day soon Mobile will see his face and name on record al-

bum covers, and perhaps even watch him perform on television.

It's not easy to beat a winning team.



ALL SET FOR NASHVILLE—Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Buffett, Mobile newlyweds, will reside in Nashville where Jimmy has a contract with Russell-Cason Music Co. Mrs.

Mobile Press Register Photo By John T. Watts III
Buffett is the former Margie Washichek, Mobile's first Miss USS Alabama, and an Azalea Trail Court scholarship winner.

Buffett Singing, Writing Way To Top In Nashville

When Jimmy Buffett, former Mobile singer, married Margie Washichek, former Mobile beauty, and went off to Nashville to seek fame and fortune it was just a matter of time before the big break came.

Undoubtedly it is at hand! Jimmy, who had quite a following among the young in Mobile for the past few years, has a new record out, "The Christian?"

Co-written by Jimmy and Mobilian Milton Brown, "The Christian?" has provoked some controversy since its release on the Barnaby Label by Columbia Records a few weeks back.

GOOD NOTICES

It has received good notices from the critics, and is getting excellent play in Seattle, Los Angeles, Denver and Nashville according to Billboard's New York publication, Nashville trade papers and a copy of Chuck Graham's (Los Angeles) Weekly Report.

Special Merit Spotlight in Billboard said, "Strong debut out of the Nashville scene is a potent piece of material with a biting lyric line and a top vocal workout. Could make it big!"

A Nashville publication was quoted as saying: "One of the heavy writers by the end of 1970 will be a guy named Jimmy Buffett. He's one of Billboard's editorial guys here and moonlights at tunesmithing . . . and Buz Cason and Travis Turk are producing a single and album by the guy using mostly (if not ALL) his own stuff for Barnaby Records."

ords, that's the Andy Williams label chiefed here by Mike Shepherd. Single by Buffett will probably be the left-fieldest thing you'll hear for a moon or two called "The Christian" — co-written by Milton Brown."

Mother, Lora in Buffett, and friends from the University of Southern Mississippi are also excited over the record which was recently Pick Hit of the Week of two radio stations, one in Roanoke, Va., and one in Los Angeles.

Not only was "The Christian?" co-written by two Mobilians, but produced by Travis Turk, another ex-Mobilian now residing in Nashville. Buz Cason is publisher, widely known for his musical acumen having produced Grammy winners "Honey" and "Little Green Apples" with Bobby Russell.

Jimmy didn't catch the "music bug" until college days. He was born in Pascagoula, Christmas Day, 1946. Mother and father are Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Buffett Jr. Sisters include Mrs. Chris Hume III and Lucy Buffett of Mobile.

After graduation from McGill Institute, Jimmy attended Auburn University where he learned a few guitar chords from a fraternity brother.

Young Buffett transferred to USM and graduated from there in 1969 with a B.S. in history.

Most of his leisure hours and a good many working hours were devoted to playing, singing and writing contemporary music. Like a great many other pop and

folk musicians he has had no formal musical training, with the exception of one college course he termed "too much theory and not enough feeling."

Jimmy credits hotel manager Frank Taylor with giving him his first real break in the entertainment business. Jimmy played at the Admiral Semmes Hotel to S.R.O. crowds at times.

FOLK GROUP

Before the Mobile appearance he was a member of a folk group from USM who played for a 13-week engagement one summer at a Bourbon Street night club in New Orleans as well as at various one-night stands along the Gulf Coast.

Shortly after college graduation came marriage to Margie who had just received her degree from Spring Hill College in a Folk Mass at the College Chapel.

Then Nashville. Jimmy got a job as staff writer for Billboard Magazine and eventually earned a by-line with that publication. Margie became receptionist at the plush offices of ASCAP.

A contract with Russell-Cason Music Company for two records materialized. Jimmy spent several months waiting for the signal.

A new label was established by Columbia Records early in 1970 and the first artist to record on the Barnaby Label was Ray Stevens whose "Everything Is Beautiful" is making record history.

The second single released by Barnaby was Buffett's "The Christian?" This will be followed by another original composition entitled "Captain America."

He has also cut an album of original songs which will be among presentations the last week of July at the annual Columbia Recording Convention in Freeport, Bahamas. This will accompany albums of Johnny Cash, Barbra Streisand and other names for Columbia.

The position with Billboard had to end before the release of "The Christian?" in order to avoid conflicting interests.

Buffett is now devoting all of his time to songwriting and publishing in partnership with Buz Cason and in the promotion of records.

Also in the making are plans for personal appearances at colleges as well as a possible television spot.

"The Christian?" is available locally though it hasn't been heard much here, if at all.

"A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house."

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GENEALOGY COLLECTION
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MOBILE REGISTER 7-3-1970



NOW IN NASHVILLE — Margie and Jimmy Buffett are shown at one of the events of the Country Music Association Week Celebration in Nashville last October. Jimmy was a staff writer for Billboard Magazine. Margie, a former Miss USS Alabama, a receptionist for the ASCAP OFFICE IN NASHVILLE.

726-1978

BUFFETT



Jimmy Buffet's grandmother looks at albums and photos
... Mrs. J. D. Buffett of 1810 Parsley Ave., likes "Margaritaville" the best of all

Footlights and fresco

Son of son of Pas sailor sings

By WALLY SHERWOOD

The son of a son of a Pascagoula sailor will be sailing back into port Thursday on the wings of song.

The sailor of the ABC album and tune, "Son of a Son of a Sailor," is none other than Pascagoula's own Capt. J. D. Buffett, who was a merchant seaman.

His son, also J. D., now lives in Alabama. But he didn't move away from Tyler Street in Pascagoula until his son Jimmy was born at the old hospital, now the Gulf Coast Nursing Home.

The seafaring tradition of the Buffetts was bound to show up sooner or later. The singer's father also loves the water and Jimmy himself often escapes from show business pressures to return to his Key West home and his sailboat, "Euphoria II."

There was a time when the Pascagoula-born entertainer thought that playing at Trader John's on the Biloxi beach was the big time.

That haven for folk music went gone with the

wind with Camille in 1969. But now stands a new Biloxi edifice, the Mississippi Coast Coliseum, as a beacon that Buffett indeed has arrived.

And it will be there at 8 p.m. Thursday that Jimmy and his own Coral Reefer Band will be performing.

Previous press releases in the Sun-Herald were in error in reporting that the concert, also featuring the Little River Band from Australia, had been switched from Thursday to Sunday.

Buffett, who will be hampered by a half cast, will be in Baton Rouge the following night.

Jimmy's 81-year-old grandmother, Mrs. J. D. Buffett, won't be making this concert although his other Pascagoula relatives plan to be at the coliseum: aunt Mrs. Roy Lumpkin and cousins Becky and Mark Lumpkin.

The singer's parents also will be over from Daphne, Ala., having moved there from Fairhope when their suc-

cessful son purchased a new home for them.

Grandma Buffett, who still likes "Margaritaville" the best of all the songs, doesn't feel up to the trip although she has caught his previous performances in Jackson and Mobile.

Back last March, when Radio Station WKKY held its special "Jimmy Buffet Day" they presented his grandmother with a complimentary copy of the new album about her husband, "Son of a Son of a Sailor."

Jimmy's parents moved away just in time for him to enter school in Mobile and later he attended college at Auburn and Southern Mississippi.

The only Pascagoula outlet for the Buffett concert, Byrd's Music, today reported "a good supply of tickets" left but those interested should go ahead and purchase them right away. The cost is \$7.75 each.

The singer was prevented from making a personal appearance for

Arts and artists



autographs in Pascagoula at Lafayette Electronics due to a broken ankle and leg suffered in a benefit baseball game in Miami.

It was during his recent California tour that he had to have his ankle broken again and reset with a pin, but he has been able to exchange his body cast for a half one.

The injury just wasn't enough to stop the singer, because he enjoys being on the road and pleasing his fans. But he doesn't like the show-biz estab-

lishment very much and they don't know how to handle his downhome cheeseburger-type approach.

"I don't fit into the mold of what they want," he explains. "Hollywood is imitation life. You're supposed to live in a canyon and snort cocaine all the time."

But he loves his audiences — that is, almost as much as skiing at his Aspen hideaway or sailing around the Virgin Islands in his sailboat.

ARTS CALENDAR Compiled by Arts Editor WALLY SHERWOOD

MUSIC

Kansas along with special guest Thin Lizzy will perform at the Mississippi State Coliseum in Jackson Aug. 8 at 8 p.m.

The Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans has booked the Commodores for a concert the first Friday in September.

STAGE

The venerable Le Petit Theatre du Vieux Carre in New Orleans will open its 62nd season Sept. 8 with the musical comedy, "The Unsinkable Molly Brown."

SCREEN

A Mississippi Forestry Service slide presentation

at the Biloxi Chamber of Commerce.

The New Stage Theatre in Jackson will start its 1978 summer film festival with "A Day at the Races" Thursday at 8 p.m., followed by "The Grapes of Wrath" Friday, "The Producers" Saturday and "The Ruling Class" Sunday at 2 p.m.

VIDEO

Some 100 film clips featuring some of the world's greatest comics will comprise part of "Funny Business," tonight at 7 over Channels 4 and 5.

Thursday at 6:30 p.m., Channels 13's "In Search

TWIN CINEMA 769-6666

2nd WEEK
Tues. is Bargain Night
Features:
"JAWS II" (PG)
Tues. is Bargain Night
Features:
"GREASE" (PG)

RITZ CINEMA 762-4655

NOW SHOWING
Tues. is Bargain Night
Features:
"STAR WARS" (G)

SUPER TWIN 2 DRIVE INS. 497-3801

NOW SHOWING OPEN 9:15
Features:
"HOT LEAD & COLD FEET" (A)
"FREAKY FRIDAY" (G)

TWIN CINEMA 769-6666

2nd WEEK
Tues. is Bargain Night
Features:
"JAWS 2"
Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water...

ADULT THEATRE
210 Iberville Dr.
BILOXI, MS.
Open Daily 11:00 a.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m.

DEEP THROAT

ALSO XXX

JULY 26, 1978

MS PR BUFFETT 26



(Mississippi Press Photo by Jerry Moulder)

Jimmy Buffet's grandmother looks at albums and photos
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Arts and artists



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BUFFETT

The Governor Stone

Sunday, August 30, 1987

Mississippi Press—9-A

Singer named honorary captain

"The Son of a Son of a Sailor" has become the honorary captain of Jackson County's 110-year-old schooner, *The Governor Stone*.

Popular singer Jimmy Buffett agreed last week to become the vessel's honorary captain.

In a letter to schooner Public Relations Chairman Melody Bradley, Buffett indicated "his whole-hearted support" of the efforts to bring *The Governor Stone* home and to preserve her place in the shipbuilding saga of Jackson County.

"I would be pleased to accept your offer of honorary captain and feel that the Buffett family, whose roots are deeply implanted in the sailing ship history of Pascagoula, may be of more help than you ever anticipated," Buffett said.

Buffett said from his review of the material on the schooner, supplied by Ms. Bradley, "I believe you need a project manager with the capability to help in obtaining funding, knowing what to do with the money when it comes and how to best handle it as applied to the maintenance of a classic sailing schooner."

Buffett knew the right person to fill the slot, his father J.D. Buffett. The senior Buffett who will be retiring from Alabama Drydock & Shipbuilding Co., in December, has been named port captain and general manager of *The Governor Stone*. He will supervise maintenance of the vessel along with Robert Payne and Joe Frederic, also port captains.

"Jimmy was just bubbling over about bringing *The Governor Stone* back to Pascagoula when he called me," J.D. Buffett said Friday. "He told me to see that she is rigged the way a schooner should be."

The Buffetts' love of the sea and sailing ships goes way back to Jimmy's grandfather, Capt. James Buffett, a sailing ship master from Nova Scotia. Capt. Buffett, who spent 63 years at sea, came to Pascagoula during the lumber boom where he met and married Hilda Seymore.

J.D. Buffett was born and raised in Pascagoula but he celebrated his first birthday in



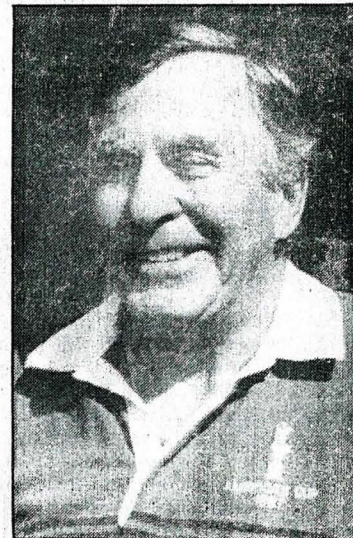
Jimmy Buffett



Capt. James Buffett

Cuba when Capt. Buffett was master of a bark out of Gulfport sailing from Pascagoula to Cuba. "I learned to walk on the poop deck," Buffett said.

A 1939 graduate of Pascagoula High School, Buffett worked at Ingalls prior to entering the Army Air Corps in World War II. He has been with Alabama



J.D. Buffett

Drydock in Mobile as manager of government contracts since 1948. Buffett and his wife, the former Lorraine Peetz of Gulfport, are the parents of three children, Jimmy, Laurie McGuane and Lucy Ann Buffett-Lyons, and have five granddaughters.

"Jimmy is planning to come to

Once winning actor dies at 63

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Staff Photo/Carol Waddell

JIMMY BUFFETT, popular singer and honorary sailing chairman of the *Governor Stone*, gets an introduction to the 110-year-old schooner during a visit Sunday. He expressed his interest in his father's role as port captain and the condition of the boat, now at home, once again, in Pascagoula. A session was held to discuss funding to pay for repairs for the 19th Century vessel.

MS Press 9-14-87

Honorary captain exclaims *Governor Stone* 'looks great'

By **CHARLES BROOKS**

Mississippi Press Wire Editor

The honorary captain of the *Governor Stone*, singer Jimmy Buffett, saw his charge for the first time Sunday in Pascagoula.

"I think it's great what you're doing here," Buffett said. "It's a good cause. I think it's essential to keep your traditional roots and values." He said his value system is what maintained him in the "crazy" world of rock 'n roll.

Buffett said the schooner "looks great" for a 110-year-old vessel. He said he was glad to have received a letter about the schooner. The project comes at a good time, Buffett said, because his father, J.D. Buffett, is retiring from his position at the Alabama State Docks in Mobile. J.D. Buffett has been named port captain and general manager of the *Governor Stone*.

The singer said that some of his friends in the world of sailing, connected with sailing 12-meter boats in America's Cup competition, might be able to lend a hand with re-fitting the schooner. Buffett has been sailing since he was a boy in

Pascagoula, and has owned several sailboats.

One of the suggested uses for the schooner has been for training Sea Scouts. Buffett himself was a Sea Scout, and said it was a "great idea" to involve the organization. "We didn't have a boat then," Buffett said. "It would have been better if we had had a boat."

Buffett autographed posters of the *Governor Stone* for sale, and offered some advice on fund raising.

"You've got to start locally," Buffett said. "You can sell crew memberships, and apply for state and federal restoration grants."

"A cause like this is not controversial, and has no down sides."

Buffett came to Pascagoula from New Orleans, where he saw Pope John Paul II, and gave a concert attended by about 7,000.

Buffett flies his own plane, and landed at the Jackson County Airport. On his way back to Key West, Fla., where he lives, he flew his plane past the *Governor Stone* and its supporters, wiggling his wings in salute.

Buffett at inaugural

WASHINGTON (AP) — Add Willie Nelson, Herbie Hancock, Jimmy Buffett and Rosanne Cash to the list of big names performing at next week's inaugural festivities. Organizers said Sunday the four would join swarms of other celebs at President-elect Clinton's inaugural balls Jan. 20. Among those already committed are Aretha Franklin, Lyle Lovett and His Large Band, Robert Cray, the Allman Brothers Band, Los Lobos, Manhattan Transfer, Delbert McClinton, Kathy Mattea, Salt-N-Pepa and Chuck Berry. "We made it our business to attract artists from all regions of the country, representing all kinds of music," said Rahm Emanuel, co-executive director of the Presidential Inaugural Committee.

1-93
Jenn. Ball

Buffett
8-21-92

Buffett plugs novel

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Jimmy Buffett flew into Portland aboard a seaplane to promote his novel about a pilot who flies such an aircraft. The sun- and sea-loving songwriter best known for the hit tune "Margaritaville" landed on the Willamette River on Thursday, then went to a bookstore to sign copies of "Where is Joe Merchant?" The novel is about a pilot in his middle 40s who agrees to help an old girlfriend find her brother.

Press/Thursday, January 21, 1993

ing on sax

all, but the temptation was too great when he ran across an all-star jazz ensemble at the National ball. There, while Thelonius Monk Jr., played drums and Herbie Hancock worked the keyboards on the jazz standard "Blues in C," Clinton played along. At the side of the stage, Clinton's wife Hillary bopped in rhythm to the music.

In contrast to his moments of shake, rattle and roll, Clinton and his wife also danced a courtly two-step to Tony Bennett's "It Had To Be You" at nearly all of the 11 balls they attended.

Finally, at the Tennessee fete, Clinton had had enough. When the tune started, he dragged his finger sharply across his throat and walked across stage and picked up a saxophone.

"The president wants to turn this off," pop star Jimmy Buffett, formerly of Pascagoula, said gleefully.

With that, Buffett launched into "Changes in Latitude," one of his many tunes that evoke images of aimless days spent consuming parasol drinks under palm trees. Clinton chimed in on the sax, blowing to his heart's content. Hillary joined in on tambourine.

"Tonight I'd rather play the saxophone," Clinton grinned midway through his extended recital, "but tomorrow I'd rather work on my economic plan."

iton orders

entral Station, New York, N.Y. 10163-5001. Full name will be used unless otherwise

Q I recently saw a list of top-grossing entertainers and was surprised to see Jimmy Buffett at No. 35—higher than the Eagles. Buffett hasn't had a hit in years. How can he be making so much?—Tim Marberry, Bakersfield, Calif.

Walter Scott's
Personality Parade

A The laid-back Jimmy Buffett, 48, has been doing a lot more than just looking for his "lost shaker of salt" since his song "Margaritaville" hit the charts in 1977. A distant relative of the billionaire investor Warren Buffett, the singer-songwriter obviously inherited his Midas touch. In 1994, he earned \$50 million from his records, concerts, T-shirts, trinkets and Margaritaville Café restaurants. In addition, his four books—a collection of short stories, a novel and two children's volumes—have been best-sellers. Buffett also is part-owner of two minor league baseball teams, the Miami Miracles and the Madison (Wis.) Black Wolf. Buffett and his wife, the former Jane Slagsvol, separated in 1984 but reconciled in 1991. They have two daughters—Savannah Jane, 15, and Sarah Delaney, 3. Buffett currently is working on a Broadway musical.

Chicago Bulls star Michael Jordan has

ENTERTAINMENT

Buffett coming to Coliseum

BILOXI — Jimmy Buffett will be in concert at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Coliseum on Jan. 17, performing songs from his latest album, "Feeding Frenzy." To order tickets, call 1-800-683-1996.

Buffett, who was born in Pascagoula on Christmas Day in 1946, has released 18 albums since 1973. This singer, songwriter and musician is best known for his hits "Margaritaville" and "Cheeseburger in Paradise."

"I have never ever won an award for any music that I have ever written," Buffett said. "But I don't really care when I have fans like Parrotheads."

The Parrotheads are Buffett fans who wear Parrothead caps, shark fin hats and loud Hawaiian shirts, reflecting the musician's Caribbean sound. During a Buffett concert, the Parrotheads turn the show into a beach party by tossing beach balls, rubber sharks and inflatable Godzillas onstage. On "Feeding Frenzy," they sing along with Buffett and his Coral Reef Band.

The album was recorded live on four August nights — two at Atlanta's Lakewood Amphitheatre and Two at Cinninatti's Riverbend Music Center. The album was produced by Mike Utley, Buffett's veteran

keyboards player, and Elliot Scheiner, a two-time Grammy winner (for Steely Dan's "Aja" in 1977 and "Gaucho" in 1981).

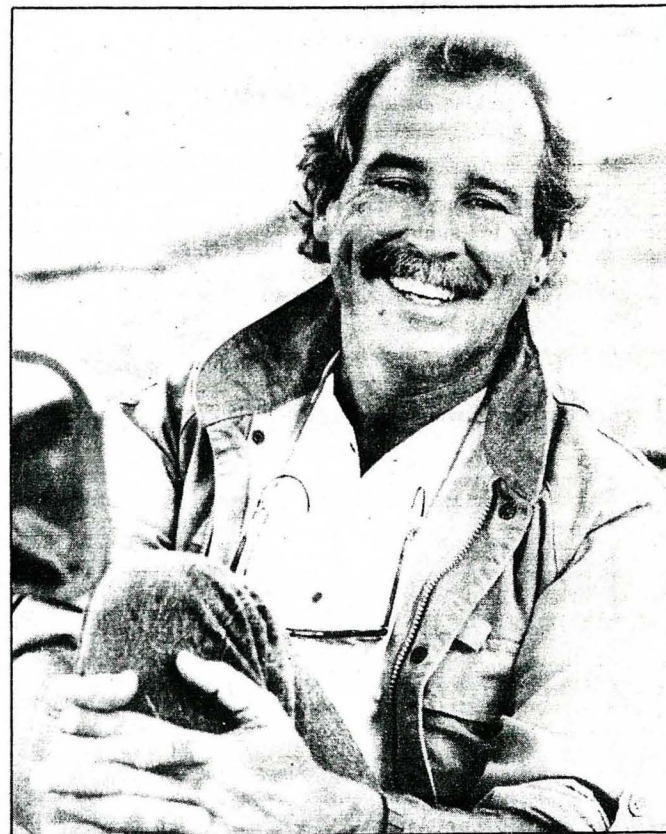
Unlike his first concert album, "You had To Be There" in 1978, "Feeding Frenzy" features Buffett singing his best songs, as selected by from votes cast by members of his fan club.

"I was in pain and on pain pills when I made "You Had To Be There," Buffett recalls. "I broke my leg in three places. I was being dumb, thinking I was a teen-ager, playing baseball and sliding into second, so I was still in a cast for that album."

Buffett says today he is "singing better. I know I'm healthier. Those were wild days in 1978, I was drinking and doing other things. Now I'm living better through common sense."

"Feeding Frenzy" continues the roll Buffett has been on since the 1989 publication of "Tales From Margaritaville," a collection of short stories and tall tales that put him on *The New York Times*' best-seller list for six months.

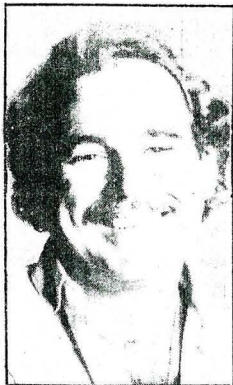
As Buffett prepares to celebrate his 25th year in music next year, he plans to mark the occasion by "taking the year off. I'll buy an old seaplane, fly around the world, fish and write a book about it."



JIMMY BUFFETT to perform at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum in Biloxi, Friday, Jan. 17.

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IN CONCERT



Jimmy Buffett

Feeding Frenzy

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☒ Story on Page 1-B

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1-93

Tenn. Ball



BUFFETT AND CLINTON — President Bill Clinton jokes with pop singer Jimmy Buffett, a Pascagoula native, as he makes a stop at the Tennessee Ball early

Thursday morning following his inauguration as the 42nd president of the U.S. Wednesday.

AP

JK

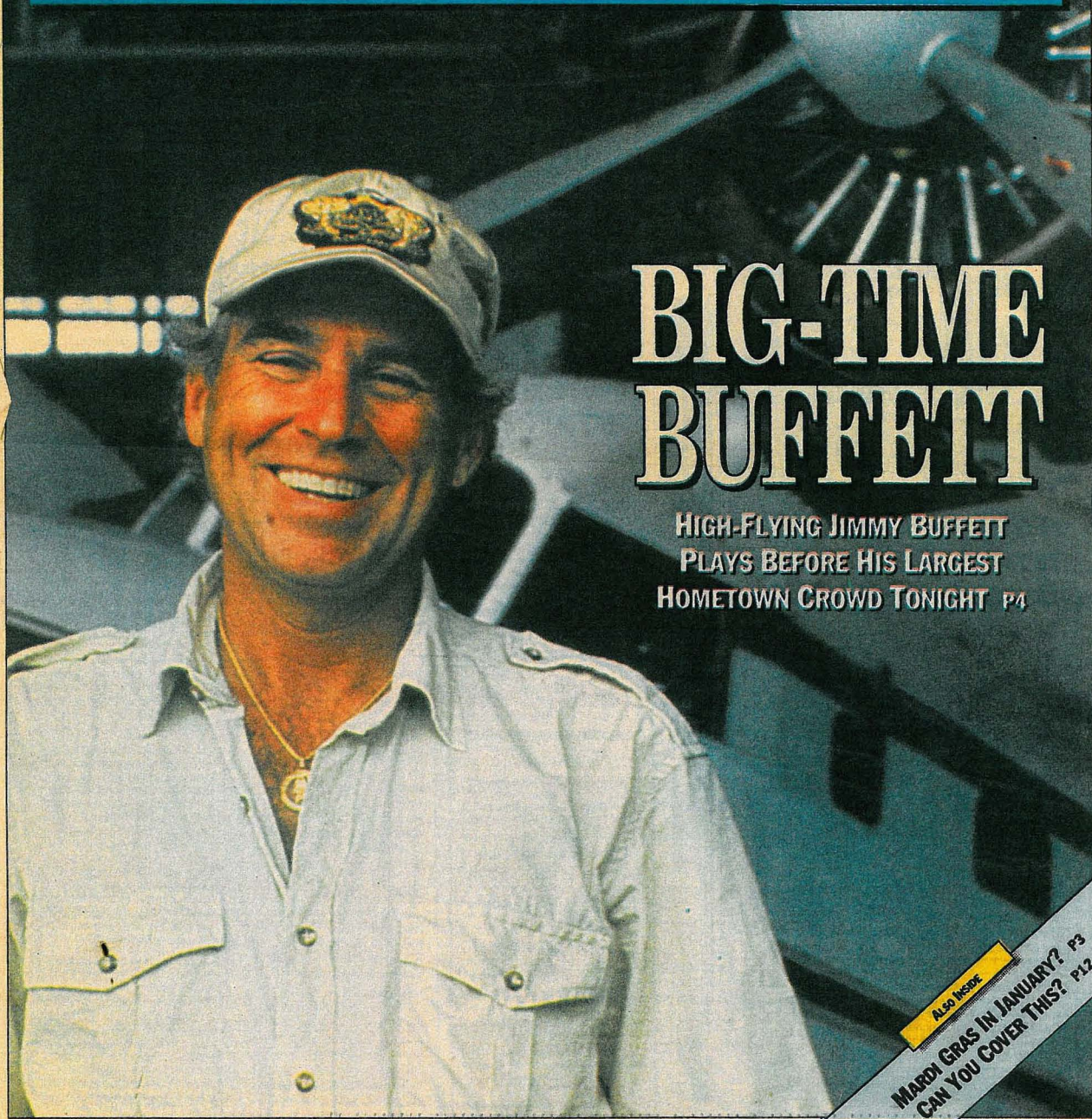
THE SUN HERALD

MOVIE TIME: 'KUFFS' • 'THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE' • 'RUSH'

January 17-23, 1992

MARQUEE

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE FOR THE GULF COAST



BIG-TIME BUFFETT

HIGH-FLYING JIMMY BUFFETT
PLAYS BEFORE HIS LARGEST
HOMETOWN CROWD TONIGHT P4

ALSO INSIDE

MARDI GRAS IN JANUARY? P3
CAN YOU COVER THIS? P12

Cover Story

It's a concert-plus night in Biloxi

By JEAN PRESCOTT
THE SUN HERALD

How loyal are Parrotheads, those ardent admirers of pop-top, flip-flop living and the island troubadour who popularized it, Jimmy Buffett?

We've read that the more affluent among them have chartered planes to ferry them to Buffett concerts in neighboring states.

And we know of one strapped-for-cash "fledgling" who, with a fist full of concert tickets and little else, hit the road in his vintage Volkswagen "Thing" and followed Buffett, et al, for four days. Objective? To catch consecutive concerts in Jackson, Miss., New Orleans and Biloxi.

That's the kind of loyalty J.B. engenders in fans who take a Buffett concert like a tonic for what ails them. Considering the current state of the union and its myriad ailments, prescriptions ought to be collected along with tickets at tonight's Buffett happening in the Mississippi Coast Coliseum; starting time, 8 p.m.

The grand poobah of laid-back style and the current incarnation of his Coral Reefer Band — "the best group I ever had," he says — will go it "solo" *sans* opening act tonight.

And for those who couldn't get a ticket to the sold-out event or can't get enough of their favorite tonic, the Coliseum and folks at Gulf Coast Coors have arranged for something special following the concert.

Says Matt McDonnell, assistant executive director of the beach-front arena, "The ticket-buying audience (for this show) are of the age group that not only want to have fun at the show, but they want the good time to continue — to party afterwards.

"So we're going to have a Parrothead Post-Party in the Convention Center banquet hall," McDonnell says.

Tropical Steal, a quintet based in Ocean Springs, has been engaged to keep the reggae-calypto-island-beach music going, and says McDonnell, "There will be table seating, plenty of dance-floor

space, a cash bar. Snacks will be available. You'll just pay \$3 at the banquet-hall door.

"The party starts immediately following the show, and it will last somewhere beyond Margaritaville."

Mr. Buffett's even been invited, but we wouldn't hold our breath waiting for his appearance. Nevertheless, there will be a contest to select and crown Mr. and Mrs. Parrothead.

"Don't get caught up in traffic," McDonnell suggests. "Just walk out of the arena, around past the north entrance to the fountain and in through the doors to the Convention Center."



We found many faces of Jimmy Buffett among the piles of clippings in The Sun Herald's news library. Lower left: Staff photographer Bill Elmore shot J.B. in the spotlight back in 1977. Above: Press photos cast Buffett in the beach-bum role. Left: The hair has thinned in 14 years, but the grin's the same, and so is the music.

Who is this Buffett guy anyway?

We can't imagine anyone's not knowing about Jimmy Buffett. But maybe only natives, even ones who've never seen him in concert, feel that way about the Pascagoula cutie who worked as a shrimp-boat deck hand during the years he lived in and around the area and attended the University of Southern Mississippi.

Upon graduation in 1969, he headed out for Key West, Fla., where he worked fishing charters by day and played the local pubs — The Green Parrot and Sloppy Joe's — by night.

And in his spare time, he wrote songs.

You'll find them all, along with some favorite covers (such as "Biloxi"), on a parade of 17 albums that began with "A White Sport Coat and a Pink Crustacean" in 1973 and is topped by "Feeding Frenzy," his latest concert album on MCA.

The more popular — read

ALL ABOUT TONIGHT'S EVENTS AT A GLANCE

The concert

When: Tonight at 8
Where: Coast Coliseum
How much: Tickets were \$20 plus fee, but the show's a sellout.
Etc.: Mr. Buffett may be pleased to learn that this is the biggest Coast concert ever for him.

The post-concert party

When: Immediately following the concert
Where: Convention Center banquet hall
How much: \$3
Etc.: Music by Tropical Steal, beer by Coors and Corona, cash bar, snacks, table seating, plenty of room for dancing.

that radio friendly — among them sprung from a couple of platinum albums in the late '70s: "Changes in Attitudes" and "Son of a Son of a Sailor." Think of "Margaritaville" and "Cheeseburger in Paradise."

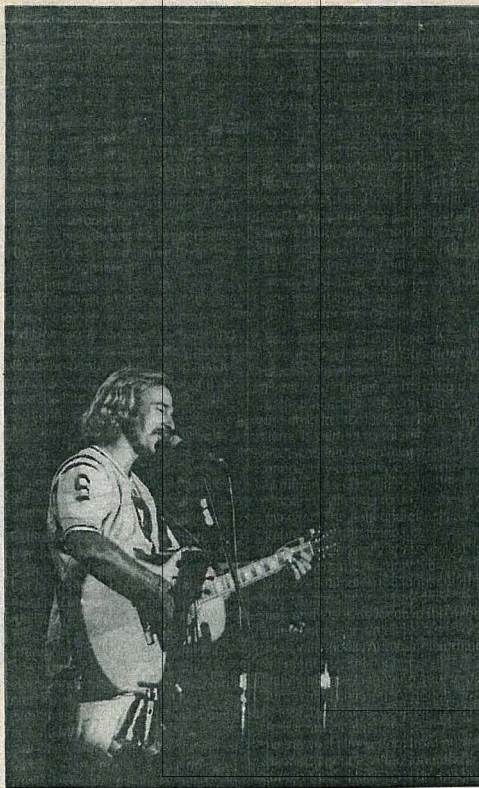
There's more to the man, though, than sun, sails and million-selling albums. He also is an author of children's books ("The Jolly Man"), a screenwriter, environmentalist, newsletter editor, clothing

designer and restaurateur.

And if you check out the photo on the cover of this section, you'll see props and part of and airplane fuselage. Jimmy Buffett's a pilot now, too. "I love sailing and still sail a lot," he says, "but the plane has opened up a huge expanse."

And that influence undoubtedly will show up in the tunes Buffett creates for yet another studio album.

We'd say the local boy's done *real* good.



MISS. PRESS - FRI. JAN 17, 1992

A Parrot Head speaks

Jimmy Buffett
fan explains
cult following

By CURTIS ROCKWELL

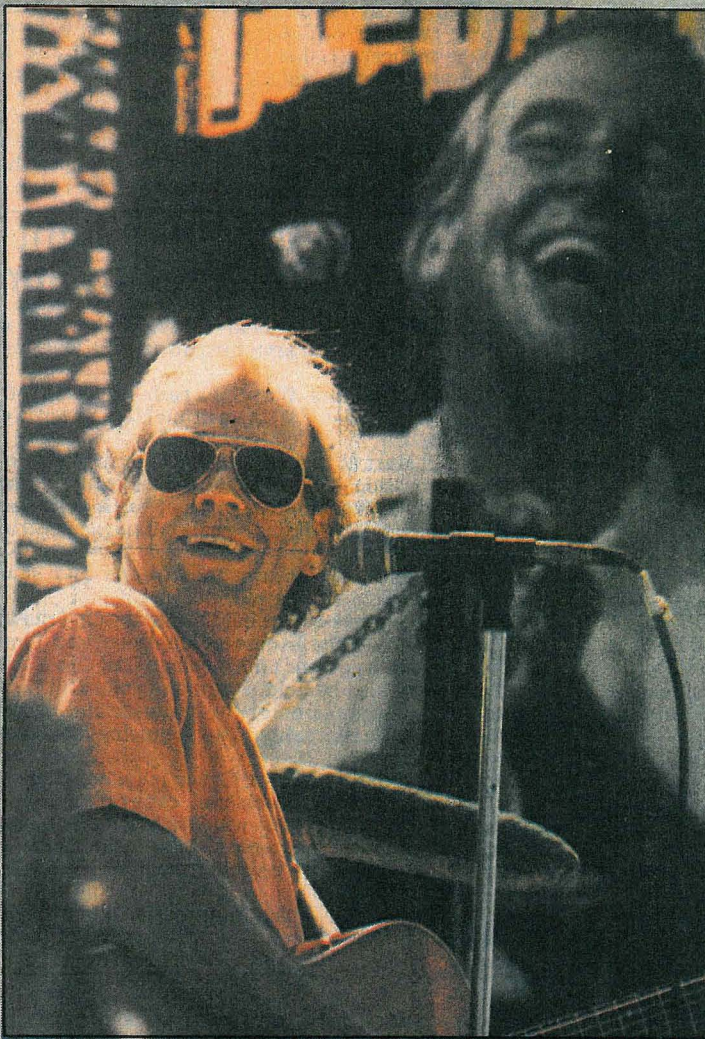
Mississippi Press Asst. Sports Editor

Authors note: I guess I was about 13 years old when I first discovered the music of Jimmy Buffett.

That's not to say that I had never heard some of his songs before that time, but when I purchased my first Buffett album in 1977 — and my brother later took me to my first Buffett concert that same year — I quickly became engulfed in the mystique of Jimmy Buffett.

Now, some 15 years and 28 concerts later, I consider myself the epitome of a "Parrot Head", the moniker given by Buffett himself to describe his vast legion of fans. By the time some of you get around to reading this, I will have taken my 29th and 30th voyages aboard "The Margaritaville Clipper". In other words, if all goes as planned, I will attend my 29th Buffett concert in Biloxi tonight before travelling to Baton Rouge, La., for number 30 Saturday.

"What's the appeal?" I've been asked by the uninitiated, "what's the attraction to being a parrot head?" Although it may be impossible to put into words, I'll attempt to describe the state of mind of being a Jimmy Buffett fan.



A JIMMY BUFFETT concert is a happening for legions of Parrot Heads.

Jimmy Buffett was born in the old Jackson County Memorial Hospital on Christmas day of 1946. And although he moved away from Pascagoula at a very young age, his roots to the Mississippi Gulf Coast are still very strong.

Buffett moved to Mobile, Ala., with his parents, J.D. and Mary Loraine Peets Buffett, when he was just a child but he continued to visit his grandparents in Pascagoula quite often throughout his childhood.

The many lazy summer days spent with Captain and Mrs. J.D. Buffett at their house on Parsley Street made quite an impression on the youngster, as Buffett told WLOX-TV in 1990 during a segment of the documentary "Great Mississippians."

"Mississippi, especially the Gulf Coast, will always hold a special place in my heart, it will always be home," Buffett said. "My grandfather was quite a character. He was a sailing ship captain that migrated from Nova Scotia to Pascagoula, where my grandmother was from. He was a great story teller and made quite an

impression on my life.

"It was he that first instilled in me the idea of travelling around the world. He helped me imagine that by following the little bayou from behind his house on Parsley Street, that you could leave there and reach the Mississippi Sound and trace your way around the entire world if you were only brave enough and had a little imagination."

The good times spent sailing along the Coast made a mark on Buffett's life that would be with him forever.

"Growing up on the coast with the water becomes a part of your make-up," he said. "I can't imagine not being around the water. The Gulf Coast and Pascagoula are very unique places, there aren't many places like it. It's a part of my heritage. I've been all over the world and the Gulf Coast is still a very special place to me."

In addition to his grandparents, Buffett's uncle Billy also played a major role in his life. Billy Buffett, a former Gautier resident that just

See BUFFETT 4-A ►

► Buffett

From Page 1

recently passed away, was made famous in a 1989 song by Buffett entitled *The Pascagoula Run*.

The song goes:

"Billy pulled in a jaguar, red convertible '69. Headed home to Mississippi he'd been around the world that black sheep uncle of mine. His ship had come in, he was looking to sin, singing his own song. When he yelled from the drive my heart came alive "Jimmy boy come along.

"It's time to see the world, it's time to kiss a girl, it's time to cross the wild meridian. Grab a bag and take a chance, time to learn a cajun dance, kid you're gonna see the morning sun, on the Pascagoula run."

Buffett said his uncle, "was a wonderful, bad influence on my life. He went to sea most of his life and he would always bring me exotic gifts. He lived out on the edge, and even though I didn't see him enough, you always knew when uncle Billy was in town."

■ ■ ■

After graduating high school from McGill Institute in Mobile, the entertainment bug soon caught up with Buffett as he attended college at the University of Southern Mississippi. There he met fellow musician Greg "Fingers" Taylor, and the roots of the now infamous Coral Reefer band were planted.

Buffett performed at his first night club in the late 1960's, singing and playing guitar at Trader John's in Biloxi. He soon left for New Orleans and then Nashville, where he finally recorded his first album *Down to earth*, in 1969.

That record sold only 423 copies, however, and Buffett left for Florida to re-discover himself. He landed in Key West, where the formula for his self-proclaimed "Caribbean rock-n-roll" began.

In 1973, Buffett released his first album with the Coral Reefers, which also included keyboard player and now Buffett

producer Mike Utley. Taylor and Utley are the only remaining members of the Coral Reefers today.

In 1974, *Come Monday* — a single from Buffett's *Living and Dying in 3/4 Time* album — became his first Top 30 hit. With the release of his fourth album in 1976, *Havana Daydreaming*, Buffett began to tour relentlessly and gain a following of loyal concert-goers.

In 1977, *Changes In Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes* became Buffett's first platinum album (over one million sold) and spawned his most popular single ever, *Margaritaville*. *Margaritaville* reached number eight on the Billboard pop chart, and soon became an anthem for his growing legion of fans.

Buffett followed with 13 more albums, the latest being *Feeding Frenzy*, a live compilation of Buffett songs recorded in 1990. Since *Cheeseburger in Paradise* in 1978, however, he hasn't had a song make the Top 40 chart. Still, he sells out virtually every concert and the number of Parrot Heads seem to grow by leaps and bounds every year.

"I've never won any type of awards for any music that I've written," Buffett tells the crowd on *Feeding Frenzy*, "But I don't care as long as I have fans like Parrot Heads.

"It doesn't bother me that I don't get a lot of air play on radio. Fortunately I sell out just about every concert and I'm one of the top grossing acts in America, and that's a great cushion to fall back on."

Last year, Buffett was the third largest concert money grossing act in America, trailing only the Grateful Dead and Guns-N-Roses.

"My gratification comes from 20,000 screaming people every night, not from having a hit record," Buffett said. "There's nothing like the roar of a screaming crowd to tell you that



HOME BOY — From his humble beginnings in Pascagoula, has achieved world-wide fame as a singer/songwriter.

you're doing a pretty good job, so who cares what the critics say. I don't do what I do to get air play, I do it for the people who buy a ticket and come to the concert."

Buffett dubbed his followers "Parrot Heads" after enjoying their antics year after year. At any given show you are likely to see a banker or a lawyer wearing a shark fin on their head or dressed up in Hawaiian shirts

and surfer jams. You're just as likely to see your next door neighbor wearing a full-sized foam rubber Gumby suit or blowing up a six-foot tall Godzilla rubber doll and tossing it around.

"The Buffett Zone", according to writer Joe Logan, is "an erie but delightful place where the world's cares and concerns suddenly fly out the window with

word that the Buffett tour is coming to your town".

"As far as I see them, they're pretty normal people most of the time," Buffett said, in describing the Parrot Heads on his 1986 concert film *Live By The Bay*. "But they have maybe just a slight streak of insanity in their make-up that comes out when they come to the show."

The term Parrot Head was coined by Buffett when former Coral Reefer bassist Timothy B. Schmidt turned to Buffett at a concert in Cincinnati and said "they look like Deadheads (Grateful Dead fans) in tropical shirts".

Buffett's touring success has lead to multi-million album sales and has allowed him to venture into many other mediums.

His 1989 book of short stories, *Tales From Margaritaville*, was on the *New York Times* best seller list for over five months, and he is currently working on a novel. Along with his daughter, Savannah Jane, Buffett co-authored a best selling childrens book taken from one of his songs called *The Jolly Mon*.

In Key West, Buffett owns both The Margaritaville general store and The Margaritaville Cafe. The store has been expanded twice since its opening in 1982, and sells all types of Jimmy Buffett items, including Buffett's own line of clothing called Caribbean Soul.

The cafe/nightclub, a 5,000 square foot building, specializes of course in cheeseburgers, french fries, margaritas and Corona beer.

The Coconut Telegraph, named after Buffett's 11th album, is a newsletter that Buffett aficionados can subscribe to and has a subscription base of over 50,000 world-wide.

Buffett is also a member of several charitable causes, including being chairman of the Florida-based Save the Manatee Committee and The Friends of Florida save the salt ponds

campaign. Buffett and actor/comedian Bill Murray also own a minor league baseball team in Miami.

At the core of all of Buffett's success is the loyalty his fans.

"I'm very happy doing what I'm doing," Buffett said. "And I owe most of it to hard work and my fans. I have the greatest fans in the world. They are wonderful and loyal.

"I'm sure most of them have regular jobs, but when Jimmy Buffett and the Coral Reefers come to town, they transform themselves into Parrot Heads and become an essential part of the show. They're an amazing conglomeration of people ranging in age from 16-to-60, all wearing ridiculous costumes and singing every word to every song."

So what makes a person become a Parrot Head? It's a feeling not easily described.

Over the past 15 years, I've seen 28 Buffett shows in 13 different cities from Jacksonville to Houston, from Little Rock to Memphis. Perhaps the appeal is the atmosphere of the show, or the carefree lifestyle that Buffett's music embodies. Perhaps it's just the chance to cut loose, throw a party with thousands of other people and forget about life's troubles for an evening.

In conclusion, one of the more interesting descriptions of the cult following of Buffett was written in a musical publication recently.

"Recent attempts (to describe the Buffett mystique) have indicated that Buffett is a unique, funky, easygoing, charismatic enigmatic, colloquial, progressive, intellectual, maverick rock-folk-country-pop singer/songwriter/novelist/performer.

"Confused? Don't be. What it all means is that it is a whole lot easier just to listen to Jimmy Buffett's music than it is to describe it in words."

FRI. JAN 17-1992

12-C—Mississippi Press

Sunday, August 23, 1992



BUFFETT LANDS — Pop singer Jimmy Buffett steps off a seaplane after flying into Portland's waterfront marina to promote his new novel "Where

is Joe Merchant." Buffett appeared in concert at Portland's Civic Stadium Friday night.

Buffett writes novel

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)— Jimmy Buffett flew into Portland aboard a seaplane to promote his novel about a pilot who files such an aircraft.

The sun- and sea-loving songwriter best known for the hit tune "Margaritaville" landed on the Willamette River in Portland, Ore., on Thursday, then went to a bookstore to sign copies of "Where is Joe Merchant?"

The novel is about a pilot in his middle 40s who agrees to help an old girlfriend find her brother.

Buffett

Wasted away again in Buffettville

By STEVE ENG

"Reba McEntire and Jimmy Buffett are Nashville's top-grossing concert draws during the first half of 1993."

- Brian Mansfield,
Nashville's Tennessean,
July 9, 1993.

By mid-summer 1993, songwriter-entertainer Jimmy Buffett had already sold seven-and-a-half million dollars worth of concert tickets. He and Reba McEntire were only surpassed by 'Sixties survivors The Grateful Dead, Paul McCartney and Neil Diamond.

Admittedly, Garth Brooks hadn't started to tour yet - but Brooks was only 11 years old when Buffett (47 in December) charted his first country hit back in 1973.

Due perhaps to his Margaritaville Records office on Music Row and his property in nearby Williamson County, Nashville likes to claim Jimmy Buffett when it can.

Even though his real estate (40 acres called "Old Town," with log cabins and a barn) is reportedly up for sale, at \$2 million, at least his annual sell-out concerts at Starwood Amphitheater reinforce his tenuous Nashville connection.

So does his membership in Nashville Local 257 of the American Federation of Musicians.

In October '92, he was a guest at The Tennessean's Book & Author Dinner in Nashville - in honor of his novel "Where Is Joe Merchant?"

The book is a ribald, picaresque chronicle of the quest for a missing rock star. It went to #1 on the New York Times' best-seller list. Its predecessor, "Tales From Margaritaville: Fictional Facts & Factual Fictions" (1989) also drew Buffett to a Tennessean literary banquet as guest speaker (and sold 400,000 copies, on the Times' list for seven months).

Somewhat like his own fictitious, elusive Joe Merchant, Buffett vanished from Nashville around 1971. With good professional (as well as family values) reasons.

His debut album on Barnaby Records "Down to Earth" (1970) had sold 374 copies. His second, "High Cumberland Jubilee," appeared in 1971. His well-written songs didn't fit any one convenient music category - and since the retail record market demands trite pigeonholes to cram the products into, Buffett's future at the outset, appeared to be a thing of the past!

He wasn't a social-protesting Bob Dylan or Phil Ochs (too late for that); nor a flowery-poetic Donovan or Bob Lind; nor a hesitant, introverted Leonard Cohen.

A Southern Paul Simon or Tim Hardin . . . perhaps? His traces of humor suggested a mild reflection of

Ray Stevens. But no one worth hearing is even the "next" anybody (ask Springsteen, ex-"next Dylan"!).

His identity formation, in becoming the first Jimmy Buffett, was a couple of years away.

Songs on the second album - like "Livingston's Gone to Texas," about a man who left his girl to become a cowboy, or "England," about a girl who bought a Pan Am airline ticket to escape her man, or "Travelin' Clean" ("you go to Fargo/We'll meet in Chicago . . .") - well anticipated Buffett's future musical-literary persona. That of a traveling troubadour whose wanderlust (and other lust) took precedence over romantic loyalty.

Buffett's co-conspirator (co-writer, producer) was James (Buzz) Cason, graduate of Brenda Lee's backup band (The Casuels) and co-writer of "Honey" and "Little Green Apples" with Bobby Russell.

"High Cumberland Plateau" was recorded at Cason's Creative Workshop in Nashville's Berry Hill neighborhood, but the album lay low in the valley - in fact, the record company mislaid the master tape awhile!

Buffett might have been typed "progressive country," a kind of wishful-thinking label, implying that, hopefully, the artist would progress to some other locale.

In spite of Buffett's enjoyment of the cheeseburgers at Rotier's Restaurant (they still have his picture on the wall), he was losing his taste for Nashville.

He resolved matters decisively by wrecking his wife Margie's car in an accident, then utilizing an expired Diner's Club card (he claims he placed his thumb over the date) to, literally, bum an airplane ticket to Miami.

Anyone who claimed the Mills Brothers as an early influence, followed by writer-singers Joni Mitchell and Gordon Lightfoot, deserved to get the hell out.

Buffett crashed in the house of Jerry Jeff ("Mr. Bojangles") Walker for about six months, playing in Coconut Grove folk clubs. Then the two of them headed to Key West in J'ng / + n _t' / + n @ £ + @ g 7 F Hk the mood of Walker's 1973 pop chart record "L.A. Freeway" ("Pack up all your dishes/Make note of all good wishes . . ." by Guy Clark).

In fact, Buffett is posed seated on the fender of the car, on the front of his "Before the Beach" compact disc reissue of the two Barnaby albums (Margaritaville Records, 1993).

Key West afforded Buffett employment as a cocktail hour singer at Howie's Lounge. He soaked up the Hemingway atmosphere, the alcohol and added marijuana smuggling to his job resume.

Gradually the Nashville refugee was becoming somebody - a musical

beach bum - a Caribbean hillbilly-calypto singer. (For those who need analogies, how about a six-string Belafonte - or a nautical John Denver?)

But whence came Jimmy Buffett?

He was born on Christmas Day 1946 in Pascagoula, Miss. (the "sleepy little town" of Ray Stevens' infamous hit "The Mississippi Squirrel Revival"). But Buffett grew up in nearby Mobile, Ala.

His early influences included "Treasure Island," and especially the ocean tales of the tropics narrated by his grandfather, Captain James Delaney Buffett, from Nova Scotia (did the captain know that Nova Scotian cabin boy Hank Snow?).

Captain Buffett talked of Mozambique and Madagascar ("Ever since I was a child, I have had a recurring dream of visiting an island" he reflects in "Tales From Margaritaville").

Buffett's family was Catholic (he was an altar boy) and at the University of Southern Mississippi he majored in history, fascinated by the lore of the Caribbean.

Books like Herman Wouk's "Don't Stop the Carnival" and films like "Key Largo" and "Donovan's Reef" helped spin larger fantasies in his brain. He played music in New Orleans bars and graduated with a degree in history and journalism.

In Nashville, he wrote for Billboard and had 26 record company turndowns before his acceptance by Barnaby. After his evacuation to Key West, he reentered Billboard in 1973, this time as a recording artist, not a reporter.

He managed a new record deal with ABC-Dunhill and "The Great Filling Station Holdup" charted #58 in country. It was the first of 12 country hits, though what "country" Buffett resides in has always been moot.

The song came from "A White Sport Coat and a Pink Crustacean" album - the cover showing Buffett posed with a live lobster and a ship in the background.

The most country song on the album was "Let's Get Drunk," a parody of carnal jukebox numbers (by Marvin Gardens).

One of Buffett's classics, "He Went to Paris," depicts a man who loses his family in World War II, but concludes that his life was magic - as well as tragic - yet "a good life all the way."

Like many albums to come, this was recorded in Nashville - producer was Don Gant and sidemen like Mike Utley (piano) and Greg (Fingers) Taylor (harmonica) became integral to

Buffett's future sound.

The following year, Buffett's first memorable song hit the charts, "Come Monday." It went to #58, but to #30 in pop, as well. Buffett was in England when he heard it on the radio and realized his career was finally happening. "Come Monday" is virtually a standard and one of his many sing-along concert favorites.

His most famous song is, of course, "Margaritaville," and it went to #13 country in 1977, and #8 in pop. It continues spinning on various radio turntables to this day (heard twice by this writer in the past two months, over radio in public places).

The humorously inane lyrics of a bumbling beach deity cutting his foot on a bottle cap, are underpinned by a subtle subtext: his forlornness might be blamed on a woman, but it's "nobody's fault" - then it just might be his fault - till finally he admits "it's my own damn fault."

Literary Buffett knows that a short story has a beginning, a middle and an end. Another Buffett standard, "Changes in Latitudes," hit the same year.

Buffett had divorced his wife. Next, he married model Jana Slagvold - their wedding at Redstone Castle, near Aspen, Colo., reportedly cost \$3,000 for the champagne alone.

The blizzard of Buffett albums continued - there have been at least 20 to date, plus one immodestly titled retrospective "Songs You Know By Heart" (1985). That album catered to what had been thriving for a long while - Buffett's burgeoning concert cult audience.

Approximately one million "Parrot Heads" (inspired by the Grateful Dead's "Dead Heads") see Buffett live each year. Hawaiian shirts and comical, tropical attire distinguish them - for as Pat Jordan wrote in Southern magazine (May 1988):

"No one comes to a Jimmy Buffett concert to hear him sing. His fans come to hear themselves. They are the concert. Jimmy's just the vehicle for them."

Nashville nurse Kim Nelson, who has attended at least four Starwood concerts, confirms this. She and her fellow fans arrive in a 'Sixties style bus named "Godzilla" and other than for their driver, "Our blood alcohol level is higher than our IQ. When you hear Buffett, you're not going to have a care in the world for the next three hours."

People in the far north can at least once a year, forget their straight jobs and vicariously travel to Key West and Bimini, via the man from Margaritaville (his fictitious, state-of-mind haven). And they can keep in touch through his Coconut Telegraph newsletter (P.O. Box 1459, Key West, FL 33041).

Buffett split from his wife, then

Entertainment Express

reunited (being "too old to date" anymore), solidified partly by their two daughters.

One of them, Savannah Jane Buffett, has written two children's books with her dad: "The Jolly Mon" and "Trouble Dolls." As the Chicago Tribune said of Buffett (July 13, 1986): "He's as fond of books as he is of parties."

The faint, nostalgic Nashville connections to Buffett include the presence of artist: like Rita Coolidge and Marshall Chapman on both his records and at his shows, plus producers like Norbert Putnam and Jimmy Bowen.

Across the street from Margaritaville Records is the parent company MCA. Its best-selling boxed

set of CDs at present is "Boats, Beaches, Bars & Ballads." The four CDs contain 72 songs - Buffett's best, plus some unreleased material and a book, "The Parrot Head Handbook."

What should have been a quaint, arty, moldy-oldie collector's gem, has gone platinum (that's a million sales).

In 1973, Buffett released "Death of an Unpopular Poet," about "a poet who lived before his time." Jimmy Buffett has worked over the years to make sure that at least one of his songs did not come true.

(Steve Eng is a Nashville freelance writer and reviewer, who authored "A Satisfied Mind: The Country Music Life of Porter Wagoner," Rutledge Hill Press, 1992.)

JIMMY BUFFETT



December 1993

ENTERTAINMENT

EXPRESS

Entertainment Express
Volume V, December 1993
Number 6 (c) 1993

SUNDAY ★ AMERICAN

HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI

SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 1994



HUBCAPS

BUFFETT
BUFFETT

Writer seeks Buffett memories

A Nashville author is looking for South Mississippians with personal recollections of the Margarita man himself, singer Jimmy Buffett.

Music journalist Steve Eng, whose stories have appeared in several music publications and who is the author of "A Satisfied Mind: The Country Music Life of Porter Wagoner," is working on a biography of Buffett for St. Martin's Press.



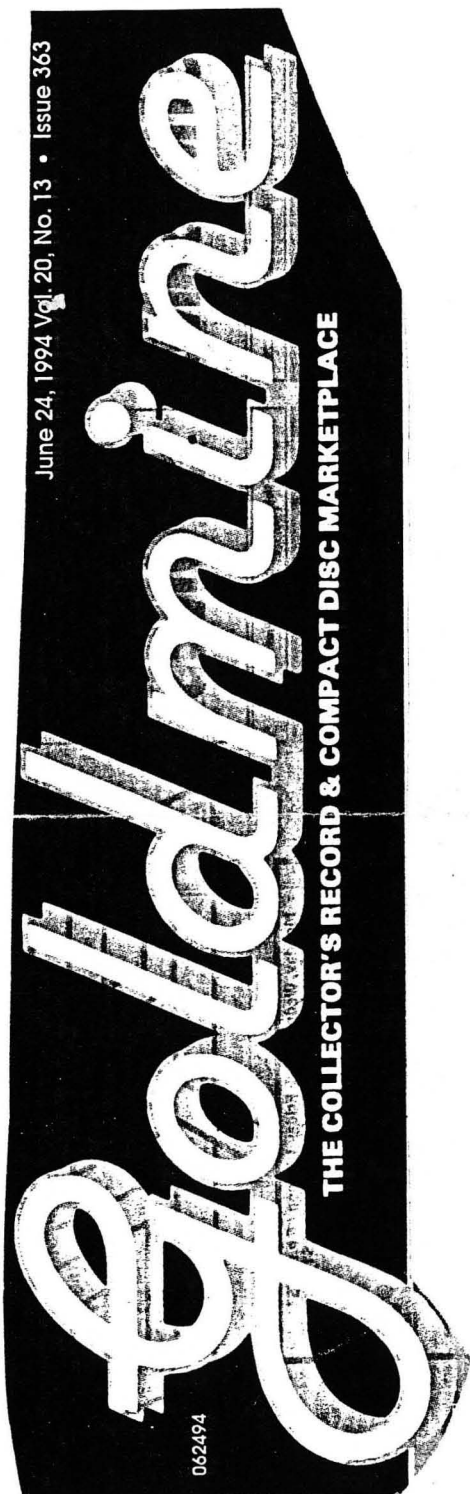
Buffett

Buffett graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1969 with bachelor's degrees in journalism and history.

Do you have any stories about Jimmy Buffett? Did you spend any time with him, have classes with him or just pass him on USM's campus? Lost facts — no matter how trivial — clippings, photos, knowledge of Buffett's life and career or any personal observations would be appreciated, Eng said.

Call Eng collect at 1-615-226-1890 or write him at P.O. Box 60072, Nashville, TN 37206.

Buffett
Buffett



Buffett Stuff Needed

William Ruhlmann's article on Jimmy Buffett (February 4) was certainly a welcome, thorough look at a large musical career. Ruhlmann stresses the *singability* of Buffett's songs . . . perhaps it takes a word-man (journalist) like Buffett to know words need to be *sung*, if you're going to call it a "song." How many of today's acts will ever be able to release an immodestly-titled retrospective album, like Buffett's *Songs You Know By Heart*?

Buffett re-entered the country charts last year, with "Another Saturday Night" (#74), a 1963 Sam Cooke hit. His Margaritaville Records act Evangeline is making sweet noise.

Last fall I began looking more deeply into Buffett, and St. Martin's Press wants to call my ultimate result a "biography." To this end, we have politely approached Buffett's management.

Though I have amassed quite a trove, I always need more. Any collectors or enthusiasts, *please* write if you have any clippings, odd records, extra singles or videos to share or spare. Photos are especially desired, and I will pay *modestly* for their use. Assistance will be acknowledged (I credited at least 113 in my Porter Wagoner biography, *A Satisfied Mind*). Collect calls will be honored at 1-615-226-1890, especially if you have any Parrot-Head yarns or reactions (yeah, I know, "If The Phone Doesn't Ring, It's Me").

So let's get drunk and research!

Steve Eng
P.O. Box 60072
Nashville, TN 37206

PASCAGOULA LIBRARY
GENEALOGY COLLECTION
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Buffett

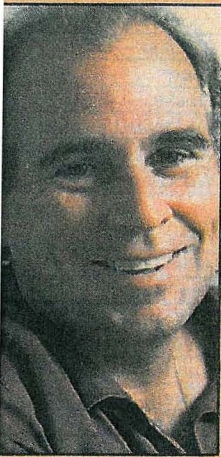
day-Saturday

July 15-16, 1994

ENTERTAINME

Freewheeling Buffett shrewd businessman

ntertainer/
businessman



JIMMY BUFFETT'S image stage persona is that laid-back, easygoing animal — but he's also a shrewd businessman, according to Scripps Howard News Service writer Rick Bird.

Page 1-B

By RICK BIRD

Scripps Howard News Service

CINCINNATI — "Cincinnati, look what you guys started," former Pascagoulan Jimmy Buffett told a colorfully attired crowd of 18,000 swarming parrotheads at a concert here two years ago.

He was acknowledging a love affair with the man who brings a beach to the concert stage.

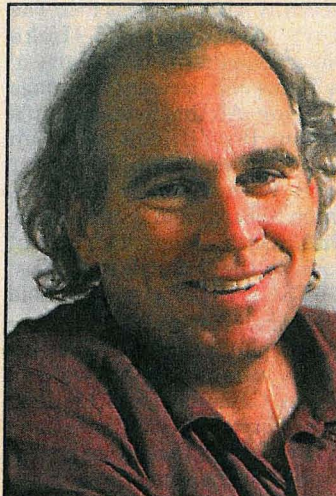
It's a cult following that led to the coining of the phrase "parrothead," when former Eagles guitarist Timothy B. Schmidt looked out on an early '80s Buffett concert and said, "These aren't Deadheads. They're Parrotheads."

The truth is, it's Jimmy Buffett himself who carefully created the Margaritaville empire, with a marketing acumen and sales strategy that might impress any executive.

Buffett milked the free-wheeling '80s, when escapist fare was the order of the day.

On stage and in his songs, Buffett continues to play the role of the aging innocent hippie, perplexed by all this cult frenzy.

In reality, he is a shrewd businessman, presiding over a private corporation specializing in selling a fantasy that grosses



Jimmy Buffett

millions of dollars each year.

The ultimate salute to Buffett's business savvy came in 1991 when he made the cover of Florida Trend, a business magazine.

It paid tribute to "Jimmy Buffett, Inc.," and detailed how he did what any smart entrepreneur would do — marketed himself aggressively and diversified as he went along.

Buffett's Margaritaville empire is vast:

Past summer tours have grossed close to \$30 million each, and 1994's tour gross should surpass that, according to Performance magazine.

He has two successful Margaritaville stores and restaurants, in New Orleans and Key West.

His new album "Fruitcakes" will soon go platinum.

His older catalog always gets a boost in sales during his summer tours.

His 1992 book "Where Is Joe Mercant?" was a New York Times best-seller.

Buffett has also realized the value of merchandising, setting up a company that not only sells parrothead paraphernalia at concerts but also holds franchises at several venues to handle merchandising for dozens of other bands.

He runs his own Nashville-based Margaritaville Records, which showcases new artists he discovers, including the Iguanas, the band opening for him on this tour.

A movie? Buffett is still said to be talking to producers about a movie based on either his book

See BUFFETT, Page 5-B

Buffett

From Page 1-B

or his song "Margaritaville."

No one knows what Buffett's empire is worth.

When it comes to his business ventures, he's coy.

He makes no apologies for being rich, but he also seems to go out of his way to remind his fans he's still the guy who sang, "We're growing older but not up."

He gives interviews sparingly these days, usually when it's necessary to sell a record or his book.

Most recently he has appeared on the David Letterman, Larry King and "Today" shows to perform selections from his new album "Fruitcakes."

When he has been asked in past interviews about the millions the parrothead phenomenon is making him, he plays the "aw-shucks" game about the business end.

He complains about ticket scalpers and ticket prices as he launches a tour that will make him millions.

He even wrote a piece once for his Coconut Telegraph newsletter in which he complained about the price of doing laundry on the road.

The creation of Buffett's Margaritaville empire is well documented in a book put out late last year, "The Jimmy Buffett Scrapbook" (Citadel Press, \$17.95).

The unauthorized biography is a fascinating look at the dichotomies of Buffett's career — how the marijuana-smoking '60s folkie found a home in Key West and marketed the counter-culture escapist lifestyle in the '80s.

"Buffett was not happy this book was being done," said author Mark Humphrey, who was unable to interview Buffett.

"He put out the word to his friends, 'Don't talk. Don't cooperate.' Since the book's come out, he's selling it in his stores. So I guess it's now approved."

Humphrey culled information from past interviews, talked to some of Buffett's Key West cronies and incorporated hundreds of old photos to compile an engaging biography.

His book paints a picture of a cunning Buffett who, though living the life of Hemingway in the Keys, was concerned about a career that wasn't exactly taking off.

"He's a guy who always had success in the back of his mind," said Humphrey. "He did an amazing interview with High Times magazine in 1976. He talked about the mystery and daring of smuggling marijuana but was also very calculating."

In that interview, Buffett said, "I can't just be a sensitive artist and still be out here surviving. I've also got to be a businessman ... You're not out there totally for aesthetic value. Let's face it, you're out there to secure your future, too."

Humphrey says Buffett made a conscious decision to consolidate his career around selling himself as a traveling tourist attraction.

"By the early '80s, he knew there wasn't going to be another 'Margaritaville,' and he went looking for a way to define his

audience that was getting older. He wanted to stay afloat."

What followed was some strategic marketing decisions.

Buffett started a Margaritaville store and restaurant.

The goal wasn't so much to sell T-shirts and "Cheeseburgers in Paradise" as it was to sell a party-life concept.

Humphrey points to the contests Buffett held at his mid-'80s concerts, where fans could register to win a "vacation with Jim-

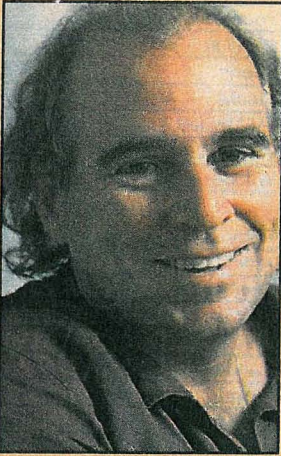
my" in Key West.

"He got this tremendous mailing list from people who went to his concerts and entered the contests. So he sent all those people newsletters (the Coconut Telegraph) and mailers to sell them T-shirts," said Humphrey.

"He was building this little fraternity for the past 10 years. There's nothing quite like Buffett-world."

Rick Bird is a reporter for the Cincinnati Post.

Entertainer/ businessman



JIMMY BUFFETT'S image and stage persona is that of a laid-back, easygoing party animal — but he's also a shrewd businessman, according to Scripps Howard News Service writer Rick Bird.

Page 1-B

Friday-Saturday

July 28-29, 1995

ENTERTAINMENT

THE MISSISSIPPI PRESS

1-B

Buffett's new CD

'Barometer Soup' hits stores Tuesday

A Staff Report

Last year, when Jimmy Buffett released *Fruitcakes*, it marked the Pascagoula native's first studio effort in almost five years.

Parrot Heads, the moniker given to the legion of Buffett fans around the world, didn't have to wait long for an encore.

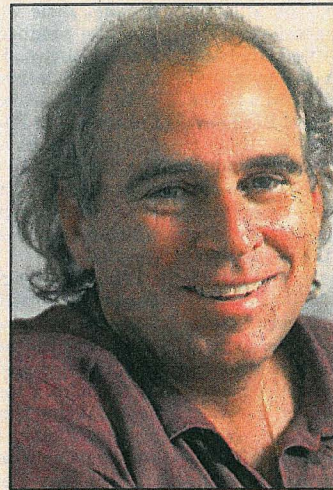
On Tuesday *Barometer Soup*, Buffett's latest release, will hit music stores in full force. And it's certain to cause a feeding frenzy among his fans.

Barometer Soup is being shipped gold (500,000 CDs), just like *Fruitcakes* was in 1994. The consecutive studio works are Buffett's first in back-to-back years since *Hot Water* (1988) and *Off To See The Lizard* (1989).

Barometer Soup is slated to have 12 cuts from Buffett, who was born in the old Jackson County Memorial Hospital (now the site of Chateau Deville Nursing Home) on Christmas Day, 1946.

"I've always thought of songwriting as a form of creole cooking," Buffett says in the liner notes of *Barometer Soup*. "You start with a basic roux, and then experiment with spices and flavors until you come up with a dish."

In addition to the title cut, other



File Photo

Jimmy Buffett

selections include "Diamond as big as the Ritz" and "Barefoot Children in the rain," along with "The night I painted the sky" and "Don't chu know."

Also included is "Ballad of Skip Wiley" and "Bank of Bad Habits," along with "Remittance man" and a cover of James Taylor's classic tune "Mexico," among others.

All of the songs on the release except "Mexico" were written by Buffett, along with help from Coral Reefer band members Roger Guth Jim and Peter Mayer plus producer Russ Kunkel.

The release comes on the heels of *Late Night Gumbo*, another Margaritaville/Island Records release that came out last month, on which Buffett covered a pair of classic songs in "Sea Cruise" and "Good Night Irene."

In addition to his singing and song-writing talents, Buffett has released a book of short stories (*Tale From Margaritaville*) and a novel (*Where is Joe Merchant*) in the recent past as well, and to co-authored a pair of childrens books with his daughter Savannah (*Trouble Dolls* and *The Jolly Mon*).

Also, he is currently writing the score to an upcoming Broadway musical made from Herman Wouk's *Don't Stop the Carnival*, that is scheduled to make its debut later this year. Buffett is also busy writing a screenplay for his novel *Joe Merchant*, which is slated to be made into a movie next year.

Buffett has also just founded a charity fund that donates \$1 from every ticket sold at every one of his concerts to certain charitable orga-

nizations across the nation.

Through all of this he still finds time to lead his annual concert caravan across America, feeding his flock of fans at various amphitheatres. His latest tour, Domino College Summer Session, is currently on break and resumes next week in Columbus, Ohio.

Buffett and his now legendary Coral Reefer Band, with fellow Mississippi native Greg "Fingers" Taylor on harmonica and longtime musical director Mike Utley on keyboards, were on the Mississippi Gulf Coast in late May rehearsing at the Coast Coliseum for the current tour.

While there, Buffett and the crew put on a private concert for the local "Towns Around Biloxi" Parrot Head club.

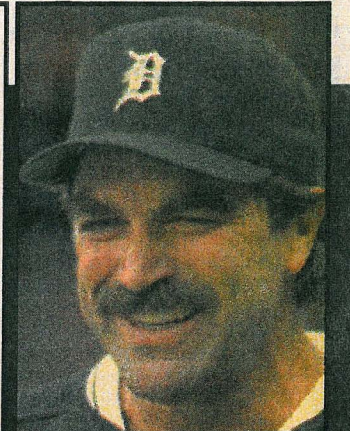
The local club will be celebrating the release of *Barometer Soup* on Tuesday, by sponsoring a release party that night at River Docks in Pascagoula. Both compact discs and cassettes of the new release will be on sale at the gathering, courtesy of The Music Station in Gautier.

For more information on the Towns Around Biloxi Parrot Head Club or the release party, call club president Curtis Rockwell at 475-7729.

QUOTABLE

“People have become jerks in this business — and I know a lot — but if they become jerks they're responsible for it, regardless of how seductive the fame is. ... I know all the pressures and I've been a jerk. I hold myself accountable.”

— TOM SELLECK, on the pressures of celebrity.



What's happening

By MARY LETT
Mississippi Press Staff

Arts, activities

July 20-Aug. 22

The Paper Chase, George H. Ohr Arts and Cultural Center, BILOXI. (601) 374-5547.

July 28 and Aug. 2

Twelfth Night, USM Dept. of Theatre and Dance, Hartwig Arena Theatre, 8 p.m. HATTIESBURG. (601) 266-4999.

July 28-30

The True Story of Snow White, PENSACOLA Little Theatre, (904) 432-2042.

July 29 and Aug. 3

Time and the Conways, USM Dept. of Theatre and Dance,

7546.

Through July 29

African American Gardens and Yards in Rural South, BILOXI George H. Ohr Arts and Cultural Center, Jambalya gallery. (601) 374-5547.

The Circle, Alabama Shakespeare Theatre Octagon, MONTGOMERY, 1-800-841-4ASF.

Much Ado About Nothing, Alabama Shakespeare Festival Stage, MONTGOMERY, 1-800-841-4ASF.

The Sisters Rosenweig, Alabama Shakespeare Festival Stage, MONTGOMERY, 1-800-841-5329.

Through July 30

Saint Joan, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, MONTGOMERY 1-800-841-4ASF (4273). Tickets \$16

Alien autopsy: Proof of extraterrestrials, or biggest hoax of century?

southern PLACES

Buffett's mansion embodies casual style

► Singer renovates oceanfront home in Palm Beach as a comfortable place for his family

By CHARLYNE VARKONYI
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

PALM BEACH, Fla. — Jimmy Buffett's oceanfront Palm Beach mansion is not exactly the home of someone living on sponge cake.

This uptown side of his personal Margaritaville, designed in 1925 by influential architect Marion Symms Wyeth, cost the singer/songwriter \$4.4 million in 1994. And that was before almost two years of substantial renovation — tearing down walls, adding several feet to upstairs ceilings and creating a state-of-the-art kitchen.

But before his Parrothead fans think the son of a sailor has made a radical change of attitude, consider that the mood is mellow in the Buffett winter residence, where the furnishings are comfortable and casual rather than chic and contrived. The Buffetts spend summers in an equally comfortably furnished white, two-story plantation house in Long Island's Sag Harbor.

At the back door service entrance is an inexpensive grass doormat that bids visitors Bienvenido, "welcome" in Spanish. To the left of the door is a scene not unlike any middle-class home — a melange of brightly colored plastic children's toys on the floor, not neatly arranged in custom storage units.

When the Buffetts are in Palm Beach, toys are scattered wherever the children feel like playing, says Mary Lee Harper, the interior designer who spent 18 months renovating and decorating the 10,863-square-foot home. (The property also contains a three-bedroom servants' quarters and a cottage.)

Although Harper won't say how much her client spent, the gourmet kitchen alone looks like it could easily cost more than a typical three-bedroom house in the suburbs.

"My mandate from the Buffetts was to make the house livable," says Harper, of Harper Mathieu Stetson in Palm Beach. "They have a casual lifestyle and want to be able to be comfortable."

The somewhat sanitized version of how the Buffetts actually live — carefully propped and cleaned by Harper and her staff — was staged for a videotaping by public television and this interview. Miami's WPBT-Ch. 2 is featuring Harper and her work on an upcoming segment on decor, a national design show premiering this fall in more than 150 markets.

Normally, the Buffetts live like down-home folks. Ingredients and cooking equipment line what are now immaculate and clutter-free green granite kitchen countertops. A tangle of wires and electronic equipment normally



Jimmy Buffett bought this airy mansion two years ago as a winter residence, putting in a gourmet kitchen. The home was built in 1925 by a popular architect in Palm Beach. Knight-Ridder photos

fills the now-clear floor of Jimmy's second-floor study. And a television set and stacks of videos are usually on top of the chest of drawers in the master bedroom.

Jimmy's wife, Jane, whom he married in 1977, collects antiques and wanted Harper to incorporate some of them in the design. But most of all, she and Jimmy wanted it to be a place where their children — Savannah Jane, 17, Sarah Delaney, 5, and Cameron Marley, 3 — could live without worrying about fussy furnishings.

"It's neat to have a family that likes to live in every room of the house," Harper says. "Our trademark is understatement. We believe homes shouldn't wear you down. They should be an oasis."

But making this home an oasis took some doing. Although it was designed by Wyeth, the favorite architect of the Woolworth family, the original nine-bedroom house was a conglomeration of small rooms with some obvious flaws.

Wyeth, who designed about 100 houses on the island during his 60-year career, was known for his grandiose plans and architectural detail. But unlike his friend and fellow architect Addison Mizner, Wyeth always stayed within the client's budget, an attribute that sometimes detracted from making his tropical version of paradise the ultimate in good design.

One of the problems Harper faced was a gloomy feeling caused by a door at the end of a hallway to the left of the front



Two porcelain birds are among the antiques collected by Jimmy Buffett's wife, Jane.

entrance. With the help of her partner, architect Kirk Stetson, the dark wood door was removed, the doorway was arched to match others on the first floor and a wood-framed circular window known as a bull's-eye was added. As a result, the changes look like they have always been there.

Former owners Robert and Muriel Harpenau added to the darkness with heavy drapes on the French doors surrounding the courtyard. The window coverings were removed and additional French doors were added facing the courtyard and on the ocean side of the house. When the Buffetts are here in the winter, the French doors are open, allowing the sea breezes to cool the house naturally.

Unlike other Palm Beach mansions with dining rooms for black-tie dinners, the Buffetts have no formal dining room. They either eat on the informal

had made for them by local craftsmen in India and Africa.

Harper used some of the British Colonial trademarks — four-poster beds with dark wood and carving and planter's chairs with cane seats and backs. The upholstered chairs and sofas invite you to flop on them and put your feet up. Floors are Mexican tile or restored Dade County pine once hidden under linoleum and carpeting. Colors are soft — a lot of greens, beiges and yellows. And the art is tropical — Audubon prints and Haitian art.

The overall feeling is informal with a touch of elegance. You can almost forget that this is the home of a megabuck entertainer who was on Forbes magazine's list of "Top 40" show-biz celebrities. Buffett's \$20 million income in 1993 made him the 40th richest entertainer in the world. He is not on the current list.

It's the personal mementos that illustrate this is a star's home. That's Michael Douglas with Jimmy in the photograph on the bookcase. Framed photographs on top of the black Yamaha piano in the living room look like a Who's Who of entertainment — Ringo Starr, Jack Nicholson, Paul Simon. And there's Jane posing with first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

"It's neat to have a family that likes to live in every room of the house. Our trademark is understatement. We believe homes shouldn't wear you down. They should be an oasis."

—Interior designer
Mary Lee Harper

leather steamship-style chairs sit in the middle of the room. They are cracked and the stuffing is exposed, but Harper says he insists on keeping them for sentimental reasons.

Bubba

By G

Michael D. Trout of Mobile recently pounced on a sentence to read, "I had to make a decision far as my future."

"As far as is a correlative construction and not a preposition," Trout wrote. "It should grate on ear when used in speech, and offend the eye when used in print as a preposition."

Bubba figures the person made "a decision concerning my future" or "a decision as far as my future concerned." He may not know what a "correlative construction" is, but Miss Prunella Pincel helped him cultivate an ear for English.

"O! Elmer went as far as the edge of that huckleberry thicket before he decided it wasn't worth to catch that coon," said Un-Hadacol.

"As far as I'm concerned, Elmer made the right choice," said B.

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9 TRUCKS
MOBILE

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Unlike other Palm Beach mansions with dining rooms for black-tie dinners, the Buffetts have no formal dining room. They either eat on the informal teak table in the courtyard or at the banquette in the kitchen.

"Jimmy is a fabulous cook who wanted a fabulous kitchen, and he got it," Harper says.

The original kitchen and butler's pantry were gutted, a fireplace was added to the north wall and the space was divided into a working section and an entertaining section. In the center are two large islands with green granite tops — one for cooking and one for serving.

The kitchen includes everything a serious cook desires — Sub Zero refrigerator and freezer, Thermador burners and grill, a professional wok station and a tall faucet on the island cooktop so stock pots can be filled without carrying them from the sink to the stove. The cabinets are custom made, and so is the exhaust hood.

Most of the furnishings in the rest of the house are British Colonial — a style English settlers

ties. Buffett's \$20 million income in 1993 made him the 40th richest entertainer in the world. He is not on the current list.

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—Interior designer
Mary Lee Harper

But perhaps the biggest insight into the real Jimmy Buffett is in his study — the place where he reads, writes songs and plays music. It's definitely a man's room — with a trestle table desk and a new beamed ceiling made of random milled cypress. Two

leather steamship-style chairs sit in the middle of the room. They are cracked and the stuffing is exposed, but Harper says he insists on keeping them for sentimental reasons.

This man who sings of sailors and smugglers and poets and pilots has bookshelves filled works such as Ernest Hemingway's "For Whom the Bell Tolls," Herman Melville's "Moby Dick," Peter Mayle's "A Year in Provence," Carl Hiaasen's "Stormy Weather" and Mark Twain's "Following the Equator." Sitting next to a bust of Twain are Buffett's CDs — Kenny G, John Denver, Bob Marley and the Wailers, the Beatles.

While Jimmy is listening to the music in the study or relaxing in the bedroom, he can see the sea. And that was his only request in the decorating project.

When the house was finished, Harper says Buffett walked into the master bedroom, bounced on the bed and said: "I feel like I'm in the islands. You've done it, Mary Lee."

Perhaps Jimmy Buffett has finally found his lost shaker of salt.



Buffett's study includes a new cypress ceiling as well as two favorite old leather chairs.

Friday

July 3, 1998

ENTERTAINMENT

THE MISSISSIPPI PRESS

1-B

A pirate looks at 50 *Jimmy Buffett meditates on life in newest book*

By SUSAN LARSON

1998 Newhouse News Service

Chances are, if you're one of those rabid Jimmy Buffett fans called Parrotheads, you're already out on the beach, margarita in hand, reading his new book, "A Pirate Looks at Fifty." At 458 pages, it may take a while.

If you're not a Parrothead, you may be hard pressed to understand what the fuss is all about.

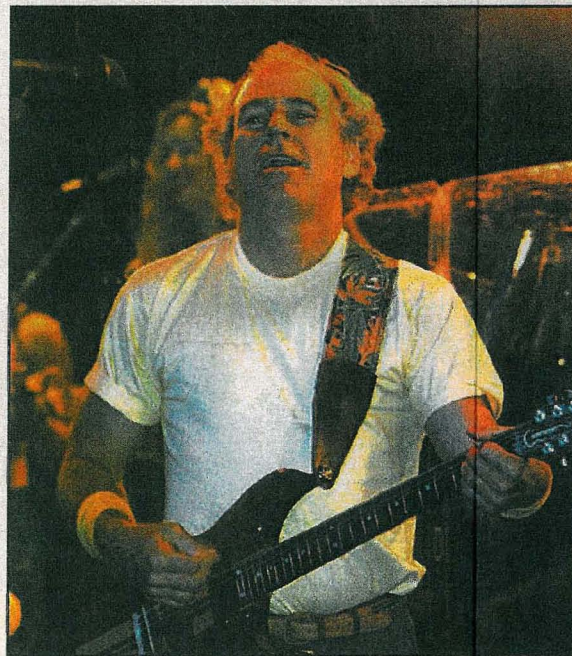
"Pirate" recounts the round-the-Caribbean journey Buffett and family (wife Jane, daughters Savannah Jane and Sarah Delaney, and son Cameron Marley) undertook in celebration of his first half-century.

Part travelogue, part memoir, part meditation on life, "Pirate" is a self-indulgent romp, with lots of cheeseburgers in paradise. We see Buffett in various jungles throughout the Caribbean and South America, lazily rolling on the river, the Amazon this time, and conceiving an ambition to play the Teatro Amazonas, Brazil's 100-year-old opera outpost. There are stops in Manaus, Trinidad, Cartagena, Bequia and Quepos, to name a few exotic ports of call. And as befits the son of a son of a sailor, Buffett spends lots of time on and near the water; with deep sea fishing and hikes to waterfalls, it's pretty much a dream vacation.

Which is not to say that at 50, the old pirate isn't feeling the sting of mortality. He recounts in horrifying detail a crash off the coast of Nantucket in which he almost lost his life. Which may explain both the gusto and the tinges of sadness that occasionally peek through this sunny account.

There are glimpses of Buffett's Mobile, Ala., childhood, including a Mardi Gras encounter with the masked figures of Death and Folly at the age of 5. "You know death will get you in the end, but if you are smart and have a sense of humor, you can thumb your nose at it for a while."

And then there's his time in New Orleans in the late '60s, when he made "the transition from altar boy to street musician." He remembers playing the Bayou Room and wandering home at



File Photo

Jimmy Buffett's latest book part travelogue, part memoir

dawn, "just like Elvis in 'King Creole.'" But times have changed: "These days, I get up when I used to go to bed. That's when you know you're getting older."

Buffett says he still goes to Mass once a year at St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans, "which I consider my church." But this is no New Age manual: "Other than that I get my spirituality from the oceans and the airways, Joseph Campbell and Eudora Welty."

This book should increase enrollment in a course called "Geography, Based on Jimmy Buffett's Songs," taught by Dr. William V. Davidson, chairman of the Department of Geography and Anthropology at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Davidson's request for a guest lecture gig (the singer accepted) is followed by a few geographical facts about the Amazon, including the useful information that "there is a Kentucky Fried Chicken in Manaus."

If you're looking for additional summer reading, on Page 105 you'll find the list of books Buffett would take to a desert island. Bookstores had better be stocking up on "Following the Equator," especially Borders, which Buffett mentions no fewer than three times. (Perhaps he was paid for a product endorsement.)

But it's churlish to rain on Buffett's good-natured parade, warding off Death with Folly as he goes. He knows the secret to his success is acting like a big kid, having a good time and encouraging his audience to do the same. Given the chance, most of his fans would be flying around the Caribbean in those gorgeous planes that look like they should be met at the Miami airport by Don Johnson in a Lamborghini.

But Buffett is aging gracefully, making pancakes for his kids, seeing his father fade into the shadows of Alzheimer's, and generally hanging in there. So he didn't wait until he was 80 — as he'd originally planned — to write his autobiography. It's a sure bet that he'll live to sing — and write — another day.

Until the next time, Parrotheads know where to go for a few laughs and a little rueful self-recognition. In the words of the pirate himself, "If we didn't laugh, we would all go insane."

'A Pirate Looks at Fifty' (Random House, \$24.95).

Friday

January 30, 1998

Buffett returns to past for latest release

By CURTIS ROCKWELL

Mississippi Press Sports Editor

Fans of entertainer Jimmy Buffett will have a chance to celebrate the release of his latest work this weekend.

The Town Around Biloxi Parrot Head Club will sponsor a CD release party for "Rancho Deluxe" Sunday beginning at 2 p.m., at Huck's Cove in Gautier.

Rancho Deluxe was released for the first time on compact disc a few weeks ago. The soundtrack to the movie of the same name is the only one to date in which the Pascagoula native scored all the music.

The movie was first released, along with the album, in 1975. The film stars Jeff Bridges,

Sam Waterston and Elizabeth Ashley, among others, and tells the story of a couple of easy-going, good-natured cattle-rustlers in the old west.

Trouble is, the old west is gone in the early 1970s, especially the era of the cowboy versus the Indian and of freedom and carefree times. The duo quickly realize it's now a time of a new sense of responsibility and way of living in place of the old guard of the west, an adaptation that neither are willing to adjust to just yet.

Instead of horses, there are pick-up trucks. And in place of land barons controlling the vast countryside, there is just one couple for the

cowboys to battle.

The rustlers-out-of-time concept is one that lends itself quite well to Buffett, who was after all a self-professed pirate who lived 200 years too late. His music and lyrics provide the perfect backdrop to echo the lives of the two cowboys in Rancho Deluxe.

Part of the film's unique charm comes from its low-key, decidedly humorous script written by novelist Thomas McGuane. McGuane, by the way, is Buffett's brother-in-law. Buffett scored the movie in part because of his relationship with McGuane.

The recording of the soundtrack took place



Jimmy Buffett

in Nashville, where television sets were set up so that Buffett and his fellow musicians could view selections of the film while they played.

Buffett himself makes a cameo appearance in the movie, during a bar scene in which he is performing with several members of his band, including fellow Mississippian and long time Coral Reefer Greg "Fingers" Taylor.

The soundtrack includes 13 actual songs, along with several clips of original dialogue from the movie intertwined.

Rancho Deluxe CDs and cassettes will be available Sunday at Huck's Cove, and there will be plenty of refreshments on hand as well. Also, a drawing for various Buffett-related door prizes will take place.

MS. Press

Buffett tries to satisfy fans with latest album, 'Beach House on the Moon'

By DAVID BAUDER
The Associated Press
NEW YORK — This is no "Tears of a Clown" scenario — not by a long shot — but the musician whom Jimmy Buffett sees in the mirror has no party hat.

The patron saint of Key West has carved out a remarkably lucrative career singing tropical-inflected folk songs in sold-out arenas to people who, when they close their eyes, pretend they're at the beach.

Yet Buffett is a product of the original sensitive singer-songwriter era in the 1970s, and that's still the work to which he's drawn. Songs were written then to make people think and feel — not laugh, at least not intentionally.

His most recent album, "Beach House on the Moon," illustrates how he tries to satisfy his fans and his muse.

It features some of the comical songs his fans, known as "parrot heads," have come to expect: "Math Suks," a paean to the arithmetically challenged by someone plainly deficient in spelling, and "I Will Play for Gumbo." The more serious material, like the Bruce Cockburn-penned "Pacing the Cage" and the title cut, is where he really sinks his teeth in.

"The records are my avenue to go out and do the things I really like, which are ballads, (and) to sing things that might not necessarily get the crowd in an uproar at the show," he said. "The magic that goes on in the

studio is still the most gratifying part."

Buffett was as surprised as anyone by the "parrot head" phenomenon.

During the 1980s, when he was a decade removed from "Margaritaville" and "Cheeseburger in Paradise," he seemed ready to sink toward the obscurity that claims most artists when the hits stop.

He continued to tour, however, and the audiences kept getting bigger. They came for a good time, the chance to escape to the beach house in their minds. A Buffett concert has its rituals, its funny hats, its sing-alongs and, most important, a sense of humor.

"The fact that I've been able to negotiate this with the help of a loyal fan base, to be 52 and not be a dinosaur, is a treat," he said. "Because the attrition rate is, to say the least, heavy. I've never been able to either dissect my music or dissect why people come to the show. I'm just glad they do."

His tours are among the year's biggest moneymakers, and he has built that into a small empire. He owns restaurants, sells merchandise like margarita mixes and writes books as well as songs. He is one of only six writers to top The New York Times best-sellers list for fiction and nonfiction.

With all of this, his music often gets overlooked. But Buffett's not one to complain, just as he knows it's part of his job to play "Margaritaville" every

night.

"If I chose a song list of Jimmy Buffett material that I'd like to do in a show, they'd probably start throwing tomatoes by the third song," he said. "It would certainly tend to be more of the reflective stuff that I've done and that I like personally."

He and his band, the Coral Reefers, have a rule: "Seventy percent of the show I call songs you have to do or be killed, and you have 30 percent left to work with. That's enough."

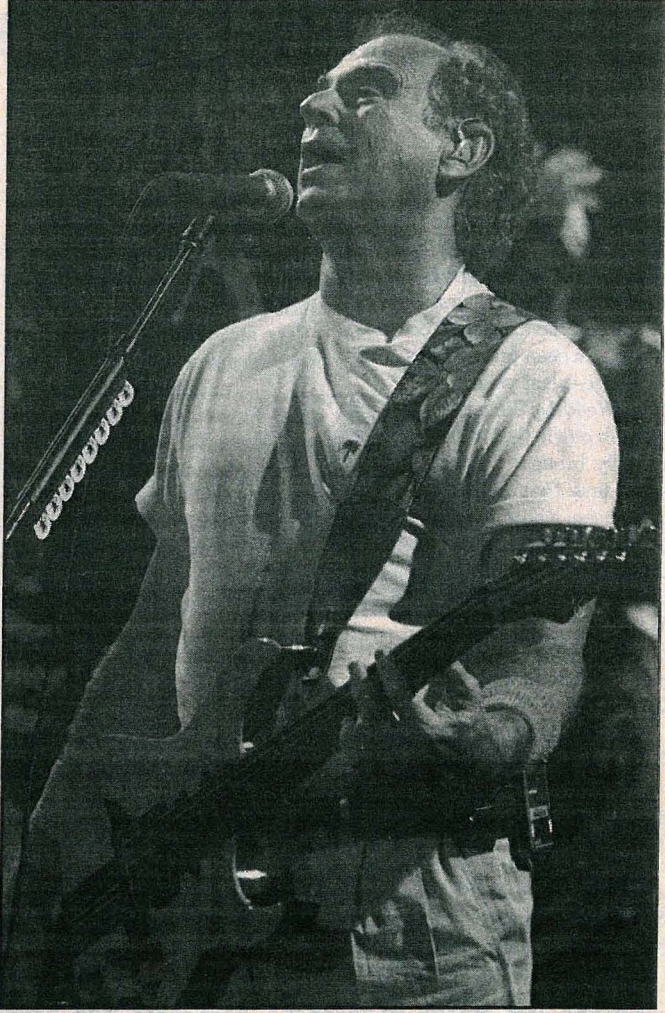
So don't look for any "unplugged" tour of weepy material.

Buffett's new album is the last in a contract with Island Records, leaving him a free agent. "I have a plan," he said. "Something tells me there's a dot-com in it."

He's not certain whether that means selling his music solely through the Internet, or just in part. At a time of flux in the music industry, he has the time and luxury to do pretty much what he wants.

"There's a possibility to create something that's beneficial not only to me but to other people in the future," he said. "I think that people are trying to reinvent the music business right now and I'd like to be one of them."

For too long, the industry has been pouring money into a limited number of acts and bypassing a lot of talent, he said. Buffett believes that will come back to haunt it. In a similar vein, Buffett has created his own Internet radio station, hiring some of the people who worked in radio when he was getting started in



AP

IN PARADISE — Jimmy Buffett performs at the Mobile Civic Center in this file shot.

the business.

"There was a connection, a link between the disc jockeys and the artists," he said. "I could name the old stations that I used to go into — you hung out with DJs, you talked music. These days, that's a rarity."

"Those DJs still exist, but they can't find work in what has evolved into the corporate umbrella of radio," he said. "So I've kind of located a few of my

old friends who are great programmers and musicologists and said, 'Do shows for me.'"

Three years after he crashed his plane into Nantucket Harbor and nearly died, Buffett is still getting into the cockpit.

"It changed my life a lot in the fact that I lived through it," he said. "I feel like I've gotten a second chance. I have to say that I'm more cautious and a better flyer for it."



Rhythm & Rain

Local duo to perform at Margaritaville

Parrot Heads, band form work relationship

By LICI BEVERIDGE
Mississippi Press Staff

The acoustic duo Rhythm & Rain evolved into being the official band of the Towns Around Biloxi Parrot Head Club over a period of about a year, a period when the group of Jimmy Buffett fans were reorganizing the club.

Both the band and the club have changed during the year, with the club growing from four members to more than 40, and the band learning to play more Buffett songs.

The band has a weekly Buffett night on Wednesdays at the Sand Bar in Ocean Springs, where Parrot Heads gather after their official meetings to listen and enjoy the music.

"I'm going to start a letter-

writing campaign," Jackie, a Parrot Head, said. "When Buffett retires, I want Rhythm & Rain to take over. He sings Buffett better than Buffett."

Rhythm & Rain will show their talents to a flock of Parrot Heads from across the Southeast who will be attending the Buffett concert Saturday in New Orleans. The band will be performing from 1-4 p.m. Saturday at Buffett's club, Margaritaville, near the French Market in New Orleans.

The duo, Cheri Salvetti and Rain Jaudon, play regularly at clubs and private functions on the Coast, but they play more than just Buffett songs. The duo sings old rock and roll tunes as well as those of the '90s.

The Parrot Heads adopted the band because of the Buffett songs and the casual, laid-back attitude of the band.

"We played about 10-15

Buffett songs before we started working for the Parrot Heads," Salvetti said. "Now we play probably about 40."

The Parrot Head attitude is best explained as a way of life, club president John Thornton said.

"We listen to Jimmy Buffett music, enjoy the tropical spirit and good company," he said. "We have a good time. And while we're together, we do a little community service, like a continuous food drive alternating between people food and animal food."

The club donates regularly to the 12 Baskets Food Bank and WRANPS, an animal safety organization that is based solely on volunteers and donations.

Local Parrot Heads also contributed about \$1,200 to WRANPS that they raised this year from a charity volleyball tournament, and they hold regular beach clean-ups as part of the Keep America Beautiful project.

Buffett concert brings fans to tropical paradise

By LICI BEVERIDGE
Mississippi Press Staff

Across the Coconut Telegraph, word spreads quickly when Pascagoula native Jimmy Buffett comes anywhere near the Coast. And when Buffett, known for his tales of laid-back tropical beaches, sandals and sailors, will be performing, his large fan base is armed with cash and ready to buy tickets to his concerts.

His fans, who call themselves Parrot Heads, will flock Saturday to the New Orleans Arena, where Buffett will be bringing his music, Coral Reefer band and sense of humor.

Buffett's 1977 signature song, "Margaritaville," from the "Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes" album brought him worldwide attention, and from there he built a base not only of music, but also businesses like his own record label and a restaurant chain bearing the name of his hit song. Buffett also has authored two bestselling books, "Tales from Margaritaville," and "Where Is Joe Merchant?," and two children's books, "The Jolly Man" and "Trouble Dolls," co-authored with his daughter, Savannah Jane.

He established a charitable organization, Singing For Change Charitable Organization Inc., and crusades on behalf of Florida's endangered manatees. The SFC donates money to nonprofit organizations that "address the root causes of

social or environmental problems." One dollar from every Buffett concert ticket sold goes to the SFC.

Buffett, born on Christmas, said of his concerts, "Many Parrot Heads are very intense about the whole thing. They know the punchlines to all my jokes, so I have to keep updating my material to stay ahead of them. Not only do they want to hear the songs, they want to get into the lifestyle, even if it's only for a couple of hours."

The lifestyle Buffett talks of is one created in his songs, like "Cheeseburger in Paradise," "Fins," "Son of a Son of a Sailor," "Come Monday," "Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes," "You Call It Jogging" and "I Will Play For Gumbo."

"I've never really instructed (Parrot Heads) in anything," Buffett said. "I've just given them the lyrics. I didn't think I would be performing this much in the '90s, yet in the last couple of years it seems as if the flock has increased even more."

In concert

What: Corona Extra Presents Jimmy Buffett and the Coral Reefer Band.

Where: New Orleans Arena, 1501 Girod Street, next to the Louisiana Superdome.

When: 8 p.m. Saturday.

• \$1 of every ticket sold goes to Buffett's SFC Charitable Foundation.

• A preconcert party featuring the Coast's Rhythm & Rain, will be held at Margaritaville in New Orleans beginning at 1 p.m. The New Orleans Parrot Head Club will be collecting new, unwrapped toys or money to be donated to Toys for Tots.



Staff Photo/Lici Beveridge

PHAN CLUB — Jimmy Buffett fans meet bi-weekly to discuss Buffett's music, and collect food and money for local organizations like WRANPS and 12 Baskets Food Bank.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1999

THE MISSISSIPPI PRESS

Page 13

"We listen to Jimmy Buffett music, enjoy the tropical spirit and good company."

*— John Thornton, president of
the Towns Around Biloxi Parrot Head Club*

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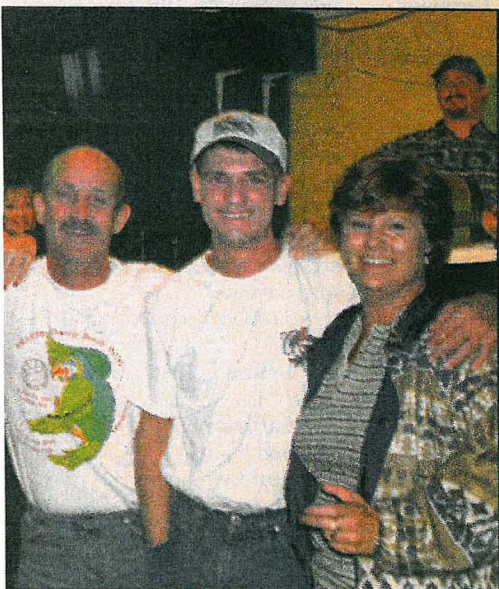
tropical paradise

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Staff Photo/Lici Beveridge

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Jimmy Buffett

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BY JAMES BRADY

In Step
With

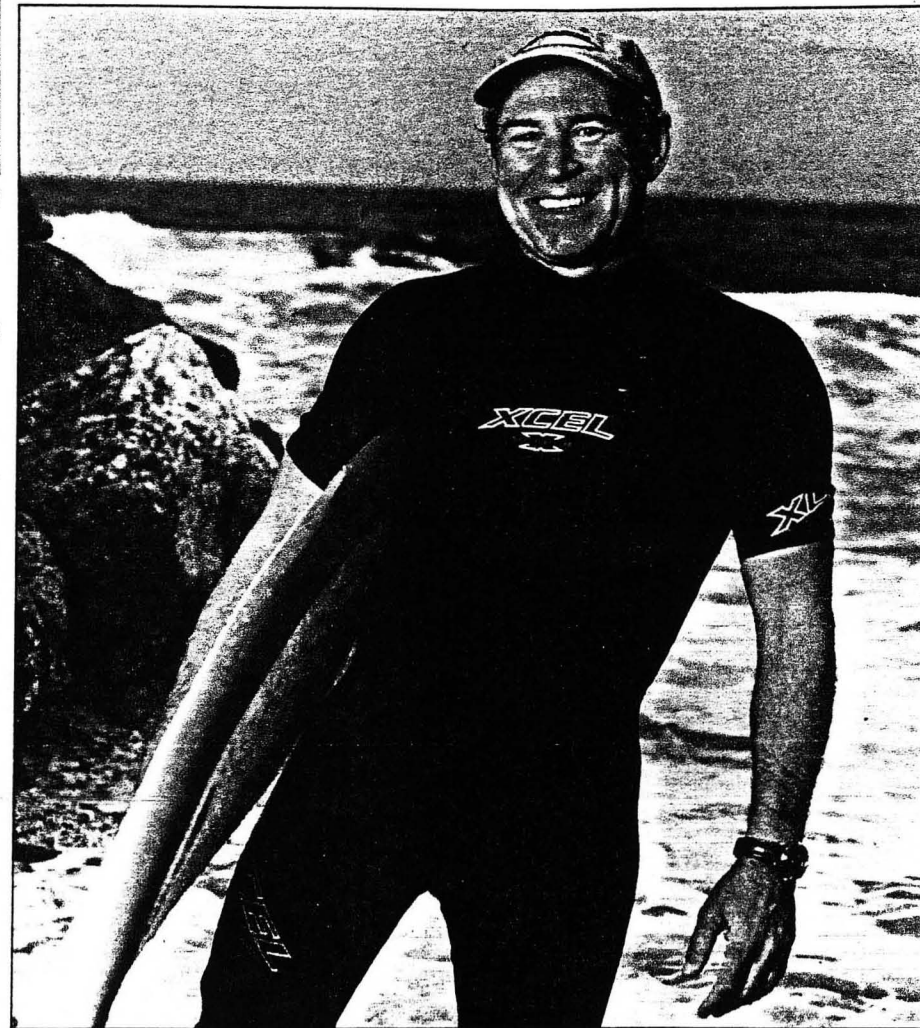
JIMMY BUFFETT

WHAT HAS THAT laid-back, Hawaiian-shirted singer/composer Jimmy Buffett got in common with Dr. Seuss and Ernest Hemingway? He is one of only six authors ever to have *New York Times* No. 1 best-sellers in both fiction and nonfiction.

He's working on a new book. "It's part fiction, part nonfiction," Buffett said. "A blend of both. I haven't yet signed a contract. These things take a long time, and it's hard work. If you talk about it too much, they begin to smell the money and pile on the pressure to get it finished."

Buffett and I were supposed to get together out on the end of Long Island, where we both live. But the tour for his new CD, *Far Side of the World*, came along, and so he was phoning me from Palm Beach, where he also has a home.

Country music legend Waylon Jennings had died the week we spoke, and I asked whether Buffett was a part of—or influenced by—country music. That's a good question," he said. "People have never been able to pigeonhole me. I once spent a year in Nashville, and



Waylon was one of the few ever to record a song of mine early on. There is a country influence on me, but I really grew up on the rhythm and blues out of New Orleans."

Buffett grew up in Mobile, along the Gulf Coast of Alabama—where, he said, America's first Mardi Gras was held. I got him talking about his fans, the so-called "Parrotheads," who dress up in Hawaiian shirts and outrageous costumes. "It's kind of a reference to the 'Deadheads' of the old [Grateful Dead] days, and it stuck," said Buffett. "It looks like Sodom and Gomorrah,

**Meet Jimmy Buffett—
singer, composer,
best-selling author
and protector
of Florida's
vanishing manatees.
He also inspires
the "Parrotheads"
from mythical
Margaritaville.**

but there are lots of professional people among them. When we do a big concert, we go out early into the parking lot just to watch them. These are people who enjoy getting into costume and having fun. I'm just an old performer from Margaritaville."

He's a performer who enjoys his work. "It sure as hell surprises me that I'm still out here," said Buffett, "and at how many young people, in their 20s and younger, come out to hear me."

For more
on Jimmy
Buffett, visit
www.parade.com.

Brady's Bits



Whether he's summering on Long Island or wintering in Florida, Jimmy Buffett loves messing around in boats, but these days he's thinking smaller. "I'm actually selling my big boat to move into little fishing boats," he said. "A manufacturer and I are talking about designing and selling a small, Bahamian-type boat for fishing with enough room for a kayak or two and a bonefishing skiff up on the bow." I asked about his efforts on behalf of the manatees, large sea mammals native to Florida waters. "About 20 years ago, with Governor Graham, I started 'Save the Manatees' down here," said Buffett. "If we let these sweet and docile creatures disappear, it doesn't bode well for our civilization. So I'm trying to help." And how does environmentalist Buffett rate Florida's current governor? "Jeb Bush is pretty supportive on manatees," he said. "I'm not a Republican, but I've got to say he's pretty good."

Buffett

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2003

Taking a Lulu of a boat ride

► Barge to begin moving
Lucy Buffett's popular
restaurant to Gulf Shores

By DAN MURTAUGH
Staff Reporter

WEEKS BAY — A barge filled with palm trees, gazebos, a car and a live band will lead a floating party from Weeks Bay to Gulf Shores on Saturday to kick off the moving process for Lulu's Sunset Grill.

The restaurant, owned by singer Jimmy Buffett and his sister, Lucy, is being forced to move because the

state earlier this year chose not to renew their lease for the property near Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Only nonessential items will be moved this weekend, said owner Lucy Buffett. The Weeks Bay site will remain open until December.

The barge loading will begin about 9 a.m. Saturday. The restaurant will offer free donuts and coffee



Buffett

to any patrons who show up, and the Leaving Brothers band will provide entertainment, said Jason Newsom, the restaurant's manager.

After the 100-foot-long barge is loaded, the band will hop on and travel 17 miles out of Weeks Bay and through the Intracoastal Waterway to the new site under the Holmes Bridge in Gulf Shores, Newsom said.

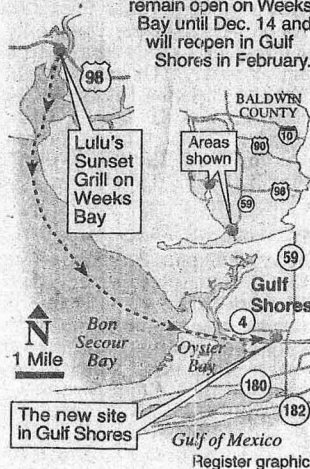
The whole experience might even provide some inspiration for Lucy Buffett's brother.

"Don't you think it would make a great song?" she asked.

Please see *Restaurant* Page 3B ►

Lulu's on the move

Lulu's Sunset Grill begins its moving process on Saturday. A barge will take some of the restaurant's nonessential items from Weeks Bay to the new home on the Intracoastal Waterway in Gulf Shores. The restaurant will remain open on Weeks Bay until Dec. 14 and will reopen in Gulf Shores in February.



Restaurant move set to start

► Continued from Page 1B

One of the restaurant's regulars, Jackie McAdams, said Saturday's party will be "bittersweet."

Eight months ago, she moved from Daphne to a block away from Lulu's, in large part because she loved the eatery so much, she said. She frequents the restaurant about three or four times a week.

"I hate to see it go," she said. "I don't know what this area will look like without Lulu's."

Newsom said only restaurant employees and the band will be allowed on the barge, but he expected several customers to follow on boats, so the band

will continue playing the during the trip.

Marine Police Capt. Michael Patrick said his unit won't increase patrols in the area, but they will "make (their) presence visible" to deter drunken boating.

The restaurant will shut down Dec. 14 after throwing a private party with free food and drinks for about 100 regular customers, Newsom said.

Afterward, employees will load everything onto trucks and take it to the new restaurant, which is under construction.

Lucy Buffett said the new restaurant, which she hopes to

open Feb. 1, will be an upgrade in several areas. It will seat twice as many people and will have a large indoor area, so it can stay open all year long, she said.

In Weeks Bay, the restaurant closed for a month every winter and would be open only Thursday through Sunday when it was cold.

She said about 80 percent of Lulu's employees will work at the new location, but the restaurant still will need a hiring effort to double its roster of about 55 employees.

She said Lulu's is planning to have job fairs in November and will be recruiting locally as well as at universities.

R.K

ver?

Jimmy Buffett capsizes sea plane; singer unhurt

BUFFETT

Crash photo, Page 2-A

NANTUCKET, Mass. (AP) — The easy summer life that has made singer Jimmy Buffett famous nearly did him in Thursday afternoon when the sea plane he was piloting capsized during take-off.



Jimmy Buffett

Buffett escaped serious injury in the crash, which took place just after 3 p.m. in Madaket Harbor on the island's west end, said Sgt. Charles Gibson.

Buffett, best known for the song "Margaritaville," often vacations on Nantucket. He was

alone aboard the nine-seater, twin-engine Grumman G-44 Widgeon sea plane, Gibson said.

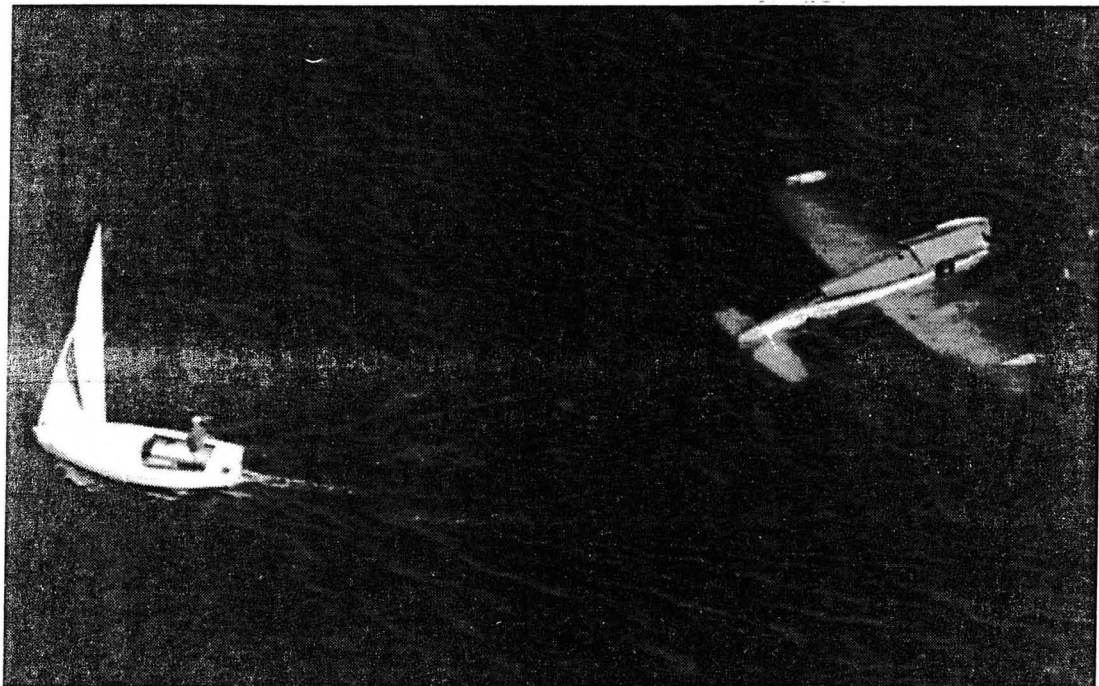
The 47-year-old Buffett, of Key West, Fla., was taxiing the plane in preparation for take-off when it ran into a wave and flipped. Buffett managed to swim from the plane and was picked up by a passing boat that carried him to shore.

Gibson, who met Buffett at shore, said the singer had "no visible injuries but complained of pain." He was taken to the Nantucket Cottage Hospital where he was treated and released at 4:45 p.m.

"He was fine ... he walked out with his friends," said Donna Fleming, a nurse in the emergency room.

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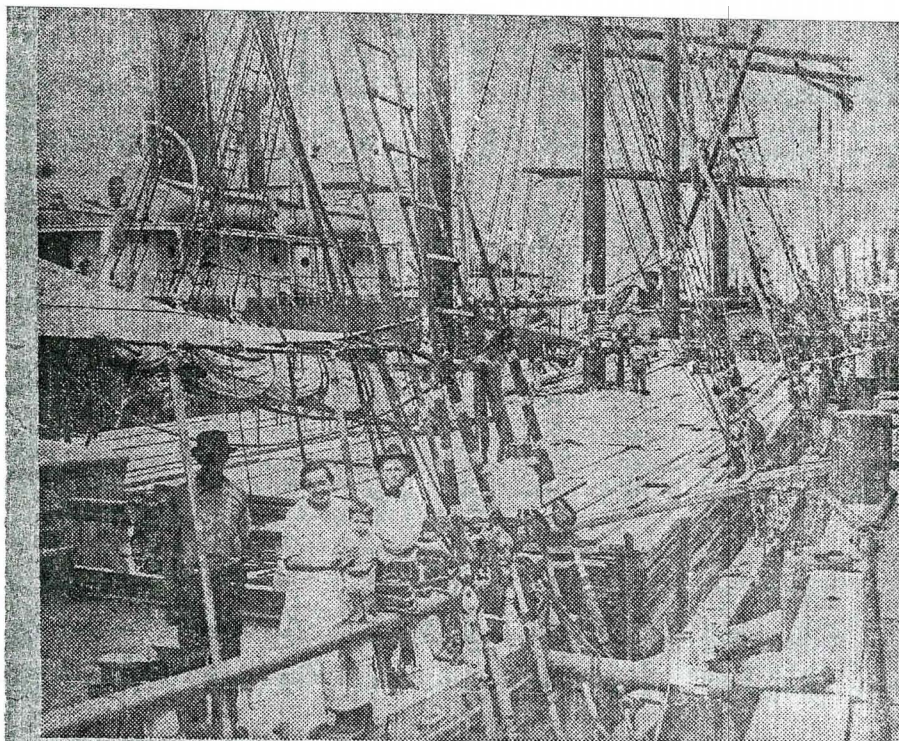
FRIDAY-SAT



AP

PLANE UPSIDE DOWN — A sailboat passes a sea plane that was piloted by musician Jimmy Buffet when it flipped over on takeoff from Madaket Harbor

on Nantucket, Mass., Thursday afternoon. Buffet was treated and released at the island hospital.



ABOARD THE MONFALCONE — Capt. J. D. Buffett, his wife and child, James, are shown aboard the Monfalcone, a sailing vessel built in Pascagoula in 1922, as she is being loaded

with lumber at St. Andrews dock in New Orleans. At left is Tack Krebs of Pascagoula, who sailed with Buffett aboard the 372-foot craft. Picture made available by Lee Beckham.

Pas Captain Recalls Sailing To Cuba In '22

Some of the world's finest ships are built in Pascagoula today, and much of the shipbuilding tradition dates back several years.

Capt. J. D. Buffett (retired) of 1017 Parsley Ave., tells the story of one of the finest wooden ships ever to sail the seas, the Monfalcone, built by International Shipyard in 1922.

International Shipyard was located on the present Ingalls Shipbuilding Corp. site.

The Monfalcone was a five-mast, 2,400-ton sailing vessel built for the Italian government for hauling coal from Virginia to Italy, but was never used for that purpose. The 372-foot ship spread 90,000 square yards of sail from her masts.

Instead, Capt. Buffett, a native of Canada who moved to Pascagoula in 1911 and married the former Hilda Seymour, became the ship's first master.

Capt. Buffett sailed the Monfalcone for three years before she was sold to Long Beach, Calif., Canning Co. She was later converted into a gambling ship and later burned.

The first voyage of the Monfalcone is recalled by Capt. Buffett as the most eventful. He took the ship from Pascagoula to New Orleans where at the St. Andrews dock she was loaded with 3 million feet of lumber to be delivered to Cuba.

The captain's wife and oldest

of four children, James, sailed aboard the vessel for Havana with him.

The Monfalcone rode out a hurricane, but by the time she arrived in Cuba, all banks had closed and the captain was forced to put up the lumber for bond to make the return trip.

The days of the sailing ship was numbered. After a few years Capt. Buffett became the master of a steam ship, but he fondly recalls the Malfalcone as "one of the most beautiful and best ships I have ever sailed."

The Chronicle

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4A

Parrotheads turn out for party in paradise

► Buffett buffs turn Civic Center parking lot into their own Margaritaville

By **MATTHEW TEAGUE**
Staff Reporter

It's 10 a.m. Wednesday, still 10 hours before the music starts. But Neal Beasley has already set up a small grill in the parking lot of the Mobile Civic Center, and has posted a sign:

"I've Seen Jimmy Buffett In Atlanta,

New Orleans, Knoxville. And Now Down In

My Hometown: Mobile, Ala."

By 3 p.m., other fans have begun to arrive and set up camp. By 5 p.m. — some three hours before showtime — a genuine tailgating crowd has gathered.

The air is excited by a hum you can hear a block away:

Buffett...mmm...Parrotheads...mmm...Wherearemyflipflops...mmm...

The atmosphere — and almost tropical weather — set the mood for the long-anticipated concert, the first time in eight years that Buffett and his Coral Reefer Band have cranked up the steel drums and guitars in the singer/songwriter's hometown.

By 5:30 p.m., you could drop a bomb on the Civic Center's parking lot and pretty near wipe out the city's Hawaiian-shirt supply. It looks like a casting session for a Gilligan's Island remake — a sea of woven grass, which the men wear as hats and the women drape on their hips.

Bethany Chambers, an Au-

burn student who skipped her Wednesday classes to catch the concert, is wearing such a skirt. She is an overachiever, and has taken the extra step of wearing coconuts. "I made it myself," she says of her outfit. Her boyfriend, Jason Phillips, is skipping his medical school classes. "It's Buffett," he explains. "Buffett."

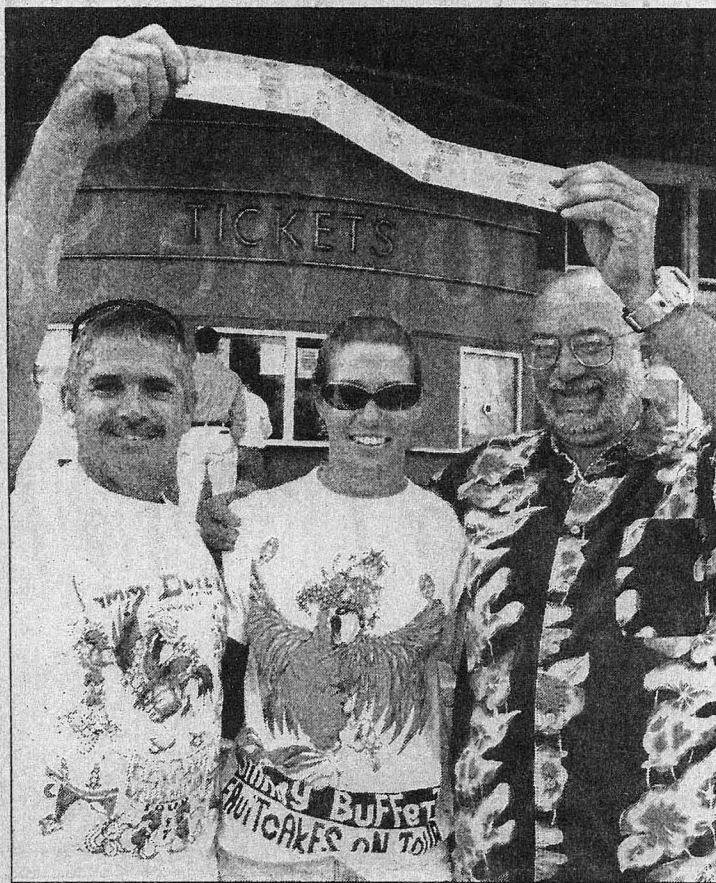
The parking lot is a happy place. It is full of happy people. Other than crisp beer, here is the secret to their bliss: Tickets. These people have tickets, which is very special, since scalpers not 50 feet away are gouging some starry-eyed fans for \$700 per ticket.

These fans, no doubt, were unaware that only hours earlier, a batch of premium tickets went up for sale at \$39.50 and \$75. The seats had been held back until it was determined exactly how much space Buffett's production equipment would take up, according to Civic Center marketing director Francie Unger.

"We can't give an exact amount, but we can say several hundred" last-minute tickets were sold, Ms. Unger said. Announcements had been sent to local radio and television stations, and the Civic Center was accepting cash only.

There were some good seats to be had. At mid-day, Attorneys J. David Greene and Will Phillips heard some tickets were available, went over to the Civic Center and walked away with seats in the center section, Row 32. "Our wives don't even know yet," Greene said.

The cheaper seats went quickly, but some \$75 seats remained late into the morning.



MARY HATTLER/Staff Photographer

Mike Watts, Elaine Swingley and Bruce Calabrese, Parrotheads from Indiana, hold tickets to the Jimmy Buffett concert that they bought Wednesday morning. The Mobile Civic Center put extra tickets on sale Wednesday after the stage setup for Buffett's show had been determined. The trio of Buffett fans drove over from Destin in the hope of getting some tickets. Wednesday night's show was their fourth Buffett concert of the year.

Bruce Calabrese, Mike Watts and Elaine Swingley, all of Indianapolis, were staying in Destin and drove to Mobile, not knowing if tickets would be available or not. The risk paid off. The three said they're true Parrotheads who follow Buffett around the country, and Wednesday's was their fourth Buffett concert of the year.

Caught up in the last-minute Buffett rush was Margaret Gleissner, a senior citizen who was trying to buy tickets for "The Nutcracker."

"I didn't know this was the Buffett line," she said.

(Staff Reporter Jane Nicholas contributed to this report.)

Mobile takes on 'Margaritaville' personality

Continued from Page 1A

bench, Gov.-elect Don Siegelman and Lt. Gov.-elect Steve Windom. The second-line opening brought everyone to their feet and kept them there, bouncing giant beach balls overhead throughout the show, some of them Buffett's peers, some young enough to be conceived between the Heinz 57 and the french-fried potatoes.

His hometown was impressively kind to Mr. "I-Don't-Don't-Like-Mobile." A stroll down Dauphin Street the hour before showtime was done to the beat of his greatest hits spilling out of bar after bar, where fans — they were tough to miss; it was a good week for Goodwill, judging from the shirts — swilled Coronas and margaritas priced to sell.

In turn, Buffett weaved home-

town stories throughout the show, recalling drives along U.S. 98 on the Eastern Shore, cheeseburgers in the Dew Drop Inn — a rumored Buffett visit Tuesday brought news crews to check it out — and his early days in the Admiral's Corner bar in the hotel around the corner.

"There were nights, there were 20 or 30 people in there, and we rocked that joint," Buffett

said before thanking old fans with "Come Monday."

An estimated 9,666 people watched the show, leaving the upper seats without gaps and the floor shoulder-to-shoulder, tail-to-beak.

"Some guy's next to you with a parrot on his head," Buffett said, "and you go in tomorrow for your dental appointment — and there he is."

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Buffett sings. Writes. Gives therapy?

By ROBERT HILBURN
Los Angeles Times

You have to forgive Jimmy Buffett if he gets confused one day over just what his main occupation is. Musician?

Best-selling author?

Therapist?

Sitting on the patio of the Hotel Bel-Air in Los Angeles the morning during a break in his 11-hot summer "Recession Recess" tour, the singer-songwriter preparing to switch to his author mode. He catches a flight day to New York for a series of book interviews, including one with Bryant Gumbel on "The Today Show."

Unlike most pop stars, Buffett doesn't just turn out biographies for his record company. He writes fiction: 1989's "Tales From Margaritaville," a collection of short stories, and the new "Where Is Joe Merchant?," a humorous adventure novel about a wild Caribbean search for a missing rock star. "Tales" was on the New York Times bestseller list for 27 weeks. "Joe Merchant" is now No. 1 on the New York Times list and No. 4 on the Los Angeles Times tally.

And therapist?

"I think escapism is a form of therapy, and there's an element of escapism in both the music and the books," he says. People come to the shows to have a good time ... to get away from their worries or responsibilities for a few hours. People need to relax.

"Take (the song) 'Why Don't We Get Ink and Screw.' I've talked to brain surgeons who said they have operated after listening to it. So, it was great when I put the song in 'The Doctor,' that Liam Neeson movie. It was a case of art imitating life, I guess."

In "Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes," one of his late-'70s songs, Buffett touches on the good times-as-therapy issue: *It's those changes in latitudes, Changes in attitudes*

Nothing remains quite the same

All of our running and all of our cunning
If we couldn't laugh, we would all go insane.

Dressed in brown vacation shorts and a white Mark Twain T-shirt, Buffett looks as comfortable sitting on the patio of the luxurious hotel as he would in one of the Key West bars that he writes and sings about, one draped casually over a chair as he orders breakfast.

Given his role as leader of the Parrot Heads, the fans whose party-till-you-drop spirit makes Buffett's shows among the most colorful in pop, one would half expect him to order something to combat a morning hangover, a bloody Mary perhaps. Yet Buffett just

orders English breakfast tea, a croissant and apple juice.

The likable, unpretentious singer-author, who will turn 46 on Christmas day, says he has toned down the excesses in a lifestyle that initially gave him material for his work but eventually began consuming him. One of the fallouts: a seven-year separation in the '80s from his wife, Jane.

He now speaks of the virtues of the family (he and Jane have two daughters, one 18 and the other 5 months) and of how he plans to cut back on touring. Buffett even talks vaguely about someday walking away from the pop world, perhaps turning to teaching and moving back to Alabama, where he was raised in Mobile.

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Jimmy Buffett



Musician, Author, Therapist?

Q. & A.

By ROBERT HILBURN
Los Angeles Times

Q: You're calling this tour the "Recession Recess" tour. Can you feel on stage that the country is going through some hard times economically?

A: I can and it's interesting. Historically, the entertainment business has done well during hard times, but not so much this time with a few exceptions, and we are one of them. It pushes me to give them a better show because I know they are spending money that they might need to use for something else.

For a lot of people, we may be the only show they go to all year and that makes the emotion level higher because they want to really throw themselves into it. I haven't raised my ticket prices for three years. I've got enough money and I don't want to gouge people.

Q: What about the changes in your personal life? Everything looks so effortless on stage. You look like someone who is on an eternal vacation.

A: I still love my two hours on stage, but I learned that I needed to make some changes in my life offstage. I used to be a hell-raising, hard-drinking, hard-drug-taking son of a b———. I don't do that anymore. If you listen to the music, I think it kind of chronicles my life.

I did some therapy myself when I went back with my wife, and one thing this guy pointed out to me was that performance is part of your life but your life is not a performance. That rang true because I had been trying to live my personal life like it was a performance. It was the best piece of advice I ever got.

Q: That's one of the points in the new novel, the hero realizing his adventurous lifestyle alone isn't enough and that he needs a relationship. Pretty autobiographical?

A: There's a definite parallel.

Please see BUFFETT on 4G ▶

FYI

■ **Who:** Jimmy Buffett

■ **What:** Recession Recess tour

■ **Where:** University of Alabama Homecoming 1992, Coleman Coliseum

■ **When:** Friday, Oct. 2 at 9 p.m.

■ **Tickets:** \$28.50 on sale through Fastix outlets

■ **Info:** 1-800-277-1700

THE CADUCEUS *of* KAPPA SIGMA

SUMMER 1995

In This Issue

Entertainers

Kappa Sigmas in Entertainment

Oklahoma Tragedy

Three Brothers Changed Forever

Hellingsworth

The Myth and Mystery Answered

Brother

BUFFETT

Tours, Albums and Parrot Heads



brother BUFFETT

Tours, Albums and Parrot Heads

by w. len rayburn
director of communications

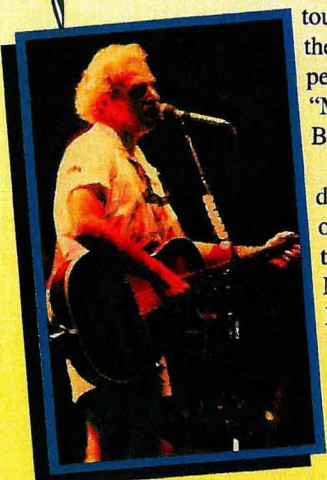
Margaritaville. . .

The word conjures images of an easygoing Caribbean seaside town filled with friends, frozen drinks, Hawaiian shirts, beach parties, and, of course, Jimmy Buffett music. Brother Jimmy Buffett, '67 Epsilon-Nu (Southern Mississippi), has more than realized his dream to play good music to good people.

In fact, in the last few years, Brother Buffett's summer tours have consistently sold out and ranked him as one of the top touring performers. Each summer, about a million people flock to hear Brother Buffett's memorable songs such as "Margaritaville," "Cheeseburger in Paradise," and dozens more of Brother Buffett's trademark melodies.

Since his debut album in 1970, Brother Buffett has produced 25 albums, with four going gold, three going platinum and one, "Songs You Know By Heart," going double platinum. He hit the pop charts for the first time with a 1974 single "Come Monday" from his second album, *Living and Dying in 3/4 Time*. But his most well-known song went all the way to #8 on the pop charts - "Margaritaville." The song has sent fans of all ages looking for the "lost shaker of salt," and is often hailed as the definitive Jimmy Buffett song.

In the 25 years of his career, Brother Buffett has remained consistently popular and productive, keeping one of the most





taxing touring schedules of any artist. But he has also managed to remain the same laid-back Jimmy Buffett that his fans, often called Parrot Heads (for their garish attire and as a comical comparison to the "Dead Heads" - the fans of the popular touring band, the Grateful Dead) know and love. You won't see him "going commercial" with videos on MTV or with rabid merchandising. He has remained true to the principles and ideals he held when he was playing in coffeehouses in the early 70s.

In a 1993 interview, Brother Buffett explained, "I believe it has something to do with the fact that I came up as a performer out of folk clubs and bars, and I learned to perform there. That part of me really hasn't changed with the success that has come because it's basically playing to people.

It's just a larger audience. Careers get short circuited, particularly because video has eliminated that process of the step by step ascension to a career. So all that's left is me and the Grateful Dead that know how to play live . . . and a couple of other people. So it's really gratifying to come out and see an audience with 6-year-olds and 60-year-olds, and everything in between. People come to see a good show and have a good time, and that's the kind of performer I am, and always have been. I always owed more to my audiences than to my record company. I honestly believe that."

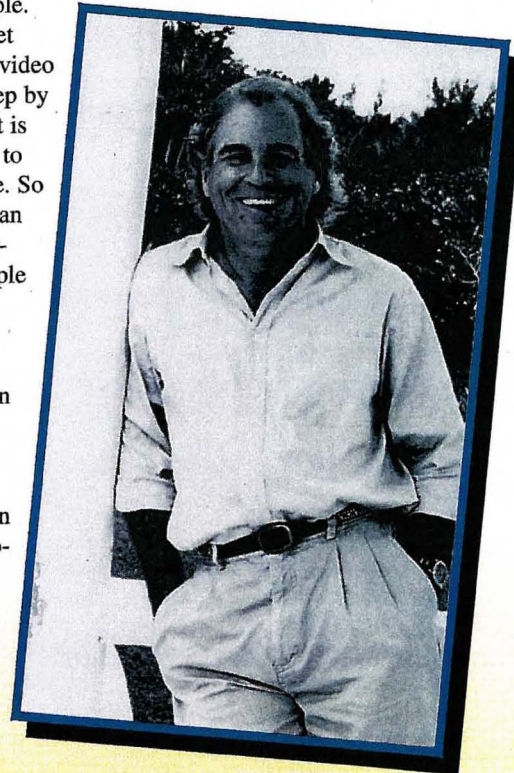
Brother Buffett was initiated in 1967 and graduated from Southern Mississippi with a degree in history and journalism. In the early years after his graduation, the self-proclaimed troubadour lived some in Nashville, Tenn. and Key West, Fla. He travelled quite a bit, playing at community colleges, coffee houses, and a variety of other places. It is said that he discovered the 60s a decade late and 90 miles

north of Havana, Cuba, in Key West. There he forged his personal experiences and the stories and legends of the Caribbean to create his unique song-writing style.

That style has led thousands to live vicariously through him. The easy-going, simple-pleasures, enjoy-life philosophy matched with a strong support of environmental ideals, especially the protection of the manatee, has given Brother Buffett more than fans, it has given him a following. Over 40 Parrot

Head clubs exist across the U.S. They have regular meetings, go to all the Buffett concerts they can and support their environmental causes. And in keeping with the times, Parrot Heads have set up chat rooms on all the popular on-line services.

Brother Buffett loves his fans and, in 1985, when he opened The Margaritaville Store in Key West, on the counter was the first issue of *The Coconut Telegraph* to keep his fans informed. "Once the Parrot Head phenomenon started, I had to find a vehicle to keep in touch with the Parrot Heads. Using my journalism degree, which I never got to use anyway, we



Continued on page 45



brother BUFFETT

continued from pg. 5

put together a newspaper to keep in direct contact with anyone who wanted to subscribe, and called it *The Coconut Telegraph*. Mainly it's to keep in touch with the fans, but it's definitely for non-inquiring minds." In addition to the newspaper, The store, and it's newer sister in New Orleans, sell all sorts of Jimmy Buffett memorabilia ranging from the "lost shaker of salt" to t-shirts to margarita mixes. And as for the *Telegraph*, a subscription is only \$5 a year. Call 1-800-COCOTEL for more information.

He enjoys his work. And to him, it is his work and his love. "Basic thing is that I'm an entertainer. I always have been. I started as a saloon singer, and I'm not out there trying to save the world through my music. I'm just there to give people a couple of hours of relief from world problems, which historically takes you back to the minstrels. It's a really simple thing for me to be in that category. I'm not trying to do anything else. As for my politics or my passions for the environment, I do them on my own. I don't try to take my audience with me. I don't use my music as a vehicle."

Currently, Brother Buffett is working with his own record label, appropriately named Margaritaville Records. He's using his label to help developing artists get the chance to grow that the MTV-flash-in-the-pan machine overlooks. He also writes.

To date, Brother Buffett has written two best-sellers: *Tales from Margaritaville*, and the more recent *Where is Joe Merchant?* which may be made into a movie by Paramount. And look for him to keep writing. He says he's not a "serious" writer, but it's always been something he wanted to do. He's also about to come out with a brand new album, "Barometer Soup." Look for it to be released this summer.

Last year, Brother Buffett left Key West with his wife, Jane, and two daughters, Savannah Jane, 16, and Sarah Delaney, 3, to live in Palm Beach, Fla. While that upset some of his fans, since he has long been considered a "part" of Key West (and vice-versa), he's still within driving distance and he still tours (but he continues to say that he will cut the tours back. . . someday).

But until then, you can still catch Brother Buffett as he and his troupe travel the country each summer singing tunes for Parrot Heads young and old.

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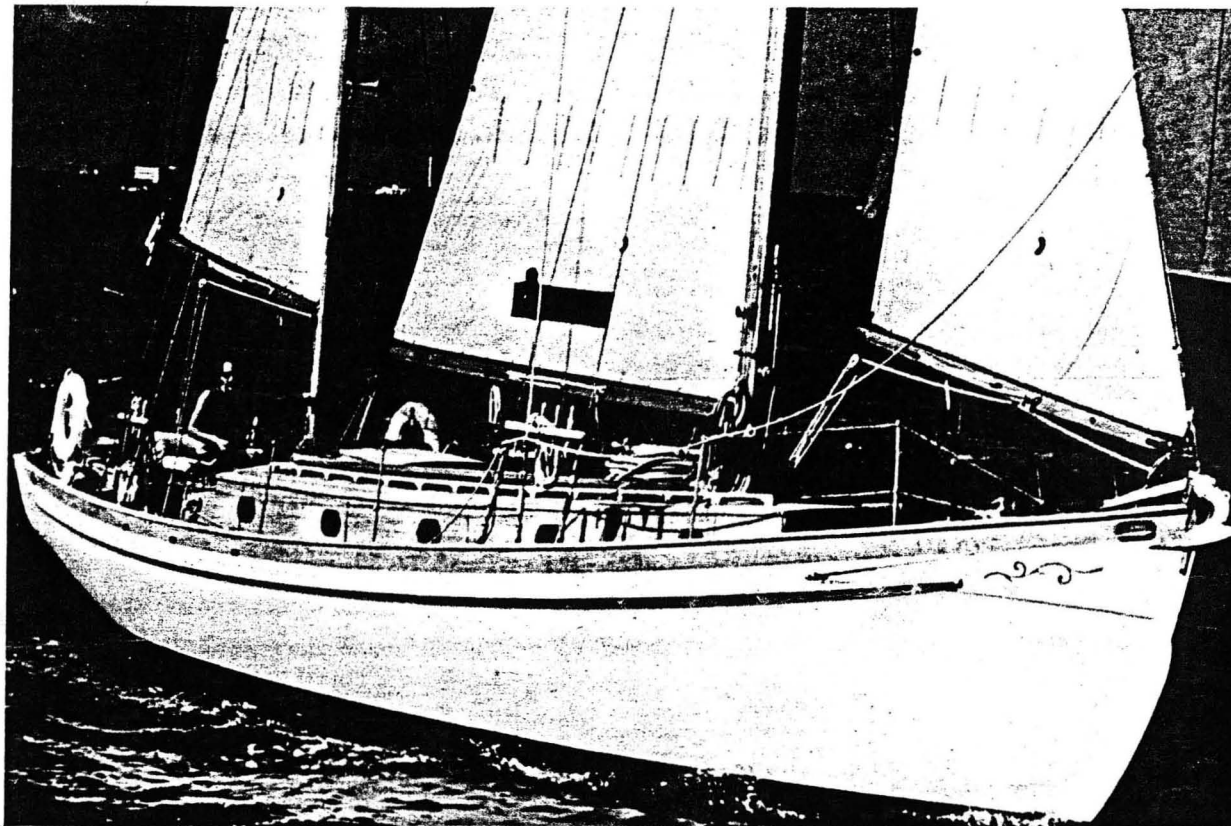
COUNTRY MUSIC PEOPLE

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JIMMY BUFFETT



IT'S HARD to believe that it was all of ten years ago that Jimmy Buffett released "A White Sport Coat And A Pink Crustacean", the classic album of the seventies. It didn't exactly set the world alight, because like the man himself, Buffett's music tends to creep up on you, engulfing the listener with memorable lyrics and never to be forgotten melodies.

To produce the album, which to this day I regard as his finest work, Buffett had to go through many setbacks and had almost ten years of some kind of musical experience behind him. Considering his somewhat lazy, laid-back lifestyle, I guess it's a wonder that the sandy-haired singer ever made it in music at all.

He was born on Christmas Day, 1946, in Mobile, Alabama, and both music and the sea were to feature in his life from an early age. His love for the sea came from his grandfather, Captain James Delaney Buffett, whom Jimmy idolised. The old man told the young lad all about sea legends, and took him out on the Atlantic, where Jimmy discovered life could be idyllic. Those days are fondly remembered by Jimmy and reminiscences keep surfacing in his songs, none more so than in the moving "The Captain And The Kid", written shortly after the death of his grandfather.

Never too sure what he wanted to do with his life, Jimmy wrapped himself up in

his two 'escapes'—music and the sea, and both became inexplicably entwined. As a youngster he recalls listening to the Mitch Miller sing-alongs, and this impressed upon him the importance of melody in music.

After graduating from high school he enrolled at Auburn University, and the music became more important than his studies. It was 1964 and the folk boom was very much in vogue. He played guitar with a bunch of other students and they became involved in performing the music of acts like The Kingston Trio, The Highwaymen and Peter, Paul & Mary.

He left Auburn before completing his courses, a disappointment to his tutors and his parents, because he could not concentrate on academic studies. He did decide though that schooling would at the very least keep him out of the Vietnam War. He registered at Pearl River Junior College in Poplarville, Mississippi, intent on building a career in journalism.

Being stuck in school was alien to Buffett, but he completed the one-year course on a diet of plenty of spare-time musical activity. He joined a folk trio playing coffee houses and fraternity dances. The threesome all dressed in matching outfits of navy blue shirts, white belts and ascots, the typical all-American, boy-next-door image.

The college course led to the University

of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg and the real nitty gritty of studying for a future career. But he just couldn't get away from the music. He joined another folk trio known as The Upstairs Alliance and began the first attempts at songwriting. He lived more in New Orleans than on campus and really soaked up the atmosphere. He landed a regular spot at the Bayou Room on New Orleans' Bourbon Street and settled down in the French Quarter of the quaint Southern city.

Jimmy graduated from the University in 1969 in English language and public address, the equivalent of a journalism degree. He nurtured dreams of making it as a singer and performer, and decided to try his luck in that direction. He was working the odd gig around New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, and at one of these he met up with Milton Brown, a part-time songwriter who had built his own small recording studio in order to make demos of his songs.

Milton helped Jimmy, offering him advice on writing and helping him to produce his very first record, "Abandoned On Tuesday". Recorded in that small studio above a dentist's office, Jimmy sold the roughly recorded single at his various gigs. In the late seventies Brown landed a professional songwriter's contract with Snuff Garrett's publishing company, and as well as co-writing "Every Which Way

TOP DRAWER Music

"Loose", the title tune for a Clint Eastwood film and giant country hit for Eddie Rabbitt, he has also had songs recorded by David Frizzell, Shelly West and Porter Wagoner.

Feeling that he was getting nowhere fast with his music, Jimmy decided to try his luck in Nashville. He peddled his songs around Music Row during 1971 and found a complete lack of interest amongst the music publishers. The songs were either 'too personal' or not about 'cheatin' and 'broken hearts'. He landed a journalist's job working for the music trade paper Billboard, writing the Nashville scene column.

Eventually Buzz Cason, a successful writer and publisher, took an interest in what Jimmy had written. He suggested a few changes, mainly in the lyrical approach and helped him get a few cuts on his songs. Cason was producing a few sessions on Tompall and the Glaser Brothers in 1972, and they recorded two of Jimmy's songs, "The Christian", co-written with Milton Brown, and "Tin Cup Chalice", a soft, melodic tune. Neither was released at the time, but surfaced on an album in 1975. Cason himself recorded spasmodically for various labels, and towards the end of 1972 he released "Heavy Dudes And Heartaches", a song he co-wrote with Buffett, on the small Caprice label.

Eventually Jimmy himself landed a recording deal with Barnaby Records in Nashville, a company co-owned by singer Andy Williams. He recorded an album, "Down To Earth", produced by Travis Turk for Russell-Cason Productions (co-owned by Bobby Russell and Buzz Cason), which failed to make any kind of impression at all.

The direction was more towards the folk-protest movement as typified by "The Christian", "Ellis Dee" and "I Can't Be Your Hero Today". He was backed up by electric and acoustic guitars, piano, bass, drums and harmonica, with Cason providing vocal background. One tune from the session, "Richard Frost", a hard-biting song, was not included on the album.



"The Captain And The Kid", one of Jimmy's best-ever songs, was given a nice treatment, but a better version was recorded later. This song did give an indication of the direction that Jimmy's music would one day take. He recorded some more tracks for a second album which was never released at the time. Sales of his debut set had been disappointing, to say the least, so there was little call for a second, which had the working title of "High Cumberland Jubilee". Again produced by Turk, this featured such well-known session players as Bobby Thompson and Bergen White alongside an unknown keyboard player called Randy Goodrun. Since those days Randy has emerged as one of Nashville's finest songwriters and top producers.

On this set Buffett's songwriting had come a long way, and there were at least three classic songs. The opening song, "Ace", was all about a tramp who had lived an eventful life, but was now rejected by the modern day world. A superbly constructed song that showed his journalistic abilities could be used in conjunction with his music. "Livingstone's



Rough weather ahead.

"Gone To Texas", on which Jimmy weaved his precious spell over a beautifully restrained guitar/keyboard partnership was another gem of a song. The sensitive handling of why a man must have his freedom, even if it means deserting his loved one, is too beautiful for words.

The third song on this album that knocked me out was "In The Shelter", another softly presented song, this time about love that has gone sour and how a woman must carry on alone. These three songs were pointers to what was to come, but the album lay locked away in the record company's vaults (even 'lost' at one time), until 1976 when the singer-songwriter had made a commercial breakthrough.

Disillusioned and angry with the way he'd been treated by the Nashville music community, Jimmy escaped from Tennessee and headed to the sea. Accompanied by fellow singer-songwriter Jerry Jeff Walker, they travelled down to Miami and Jimmy ended up at Key West, a retreat from the problems he had found in Music City. He had left behind a failed marriage and bitter memories of rejection of his music, that was so very personal to him.

Buffett

He continued with his songwriting, and even teamed up with Jerry Jeff to write "Railroad Lady", a song that has become a classic after both Lefty Frizzell and Merle Haggard recorded it. He was tempted back to Nashville by Don Gant, a young, enthusiastic producer with ABC Records in Nashville. Gant worked closely with Jimmy in the studio and the result, "A White Sport Coat And A Pink Crustacean",



The late Lefty Frizzell's last hit, "Railroad Lady", was a Jimmy Buffett song.

was a set of songs that at last caught the essential talent and magic of Jimmy Buffett.

His commercial success was moderate, though he rapidly built a cult following through such songs as "He Went To Paris", "I Have Found Me A Home" and "Death Of An Unpopular Poet". "My Lovely Lady" was a little ironic; very personal, it stated in simple terms that he was ready to leave Nashville and take his lady to the sea. His lady didn't go, but Jimmy did as he explained—"You can have the rest of everything I own, 'Cause I have found me a home".

He hadn't really discovered a new musical style, it was more a case that Nashville hadn't been ready for his sound before, and he had to wait until a sympathetic producer could provide him with the right setting for his music. Don Gant was that person, and if anyone believed that that first album was something of a fluke, the next album, "Living And Dying In 3/4 Time", showed that Jimmy Buffett was on his way.

A single, the self-penned "Come Monday", became an American top twenty pop hit during the summer of 1974 and also received extensive radio plays in Britain. The album mixed the reflective side ("Livingstone's Gone To Texas") with humour ("Pencil Thin Moustache") and a kind of blend between the cosmic cowboy scene like The Eagles and a unique Caribbean-country style that was totally Buffett's.

But now he was out on the road performing his songs as a solo act, either in small rooms or as opening act for such major stars as James Taylor, The Eagles and Linda Ronstadt. He continued his comfortable musical styling with the



albums "A1A" and "Havana Daydreamin'" in 1975 and 1976 respectively, and his recordings for the Barnaby label were reissued in a double album set under the very apt title "Before The Salt". This package featured all those early songs, including the previously unissued "Richard Frost".

He was asked to write the score for the film "Rancho DeLuxe", a modern-day western written by his brother-in-law Tom McGuane and starring Jeff Bridges, in which Jimmy's music fitted in perfectly with the laid-back, humorous storyline. It was only a 'second feature' film, so it hardly brought any kind of acclaim or recognition for his music, but there is a fine soundtrack album, which is well worth seeking out.

His breakthrough finally came in 1977 with the single "Margaritaville", which made the American top twenty and elevated Jimmy into the major star category. The single was lifted off the "Changes In Latitudes, Changes In Attitudes" album, which really wasn't that much different than its predecessors. It was the same formula of laid-back, easy-on-the-ear songs, and in fact two of Jimmy's songs—"In The Shelter" and "Wonder Why We Ever Go Home"—were written a few years earlier.

The difference with this album was not in the musical content, the change was that a new producer was brought in—Norbert Putman. A change of recording location also took place with sessions split between Miami and Nashville. The title tune was also a big-selling single and the album rapidly went platinum.

By this time he had his own band, The Coral Reefers, for both concert and studio work, and he changed his management from Nashville's Don Light Agency to the Front Line Management out of California. His next album, "Son Of A Son Of A Sailor", also went platinum and produced another hit single, "Cheeseburger In Paradise". Again production was handled by Putman on a selection of songs which had a harder, 'rock band' feel than any previous Buffett collection.

By now he had a full band and this was being reflected in both his songwriting and the presentation of his music. Typical of



Jimmy, though, he refused to allow his success to spoil his already comfortable lifestyle. Around this time Jimmy remarried, to a lady who had previously been referred to as 'Miss Jane' on dedications in his earlier albums. They moved to Aspen, Colorado, but still retained an apartment in Key West. He sold his larger boat and immediately bought a new one and spent two months sailing the north-west Caribbean.

It is his ability to keep his personal life in perspective and not be overcome by the business trappings of the music scene that has enabled Jimmy's prolific pen and fertile mind to consistently produce such excellent material. In August 1978 he recorded a double live set which showed even more conclusively the way the band had altered his music. Many of his most sensitive songs were given a harder edge, though he did dismiss the band for a fine solo spot, which included the moving "He Went To Paris" and "The Captain And The Kid".

The following November saw the release of "Volcano", an album recorded on the island of Monserrat. This presented another 'new' side of Buffett. Once again

Buffett

his infectious humour was all there, especially in the title tune, a delightful calypso complete with references to Three Mile Island and the Ayatollah Khomeini, hence the reason for writing the delightful "Chanson Pour Les Petit Enfants".

This strange fairy tale is never sickly sweet, as Jimmy fulfills a child's daydream of the good life. That he manages to tap a child's sense of wonder and goodness without going smug, sentimental or religious, shows why he's such an acclaimed writer and performer. The soft, gently swaying ballads are also in evidence in songs like "Treat Her Like A Lady", "Stranded On A Sandbar" and "Sending The Old Man Home".

The album was moderately successful and Jimmy received more exposure through the film "Urban Cowboy" in which he performed "Hello Texas". For his next album he changed location and settled for Muscle Shoals, Alabama. "Coconut Telegraph" was back to the softer Buffett style highlighted by "Incommunicado", a sensitive tribute to John Wayne and Travis McGhee.

Once again he wrote a song for his young daughter with the delightful "Little Miss Magic", and demonstrated his unique talent for lyrics in the humorous "The Weather Is Here, Wish You Were Beautiful" and even turns in a revival of "Stars Fell On Alabama", a song which he had grown up on.

He returned to Nashville to record his next album, "Somewhere Over China", another fine blend of gentle melodies, escapist lyrics and sympathetic musical backdrops. Never one to chase after commercial success, Jimmy remains the complete storyteller, drawing on his own experiences for his strong material.

It's hard to pinpoint Jimmy Buffett's roots, or where he's likely to take his music. What one can say, though, is that throughout his career he has never followed trends. He refuses to compromise to commercial needs, and has maintained a strangely successful 'couldn't care less attitude' about it all. Yet beneath the surface there is a well-meaning, deeply thoughtful person who loves his music as much as the sea, which in this fast-moving life has not only kept Jimmy Buffett sane, but also endeared him to a growing legion of fans, who also find that his music keeps them sane.

ALAN CACKETT

JIMMY BUFFETT ALBUM DISCOGRAPHY:

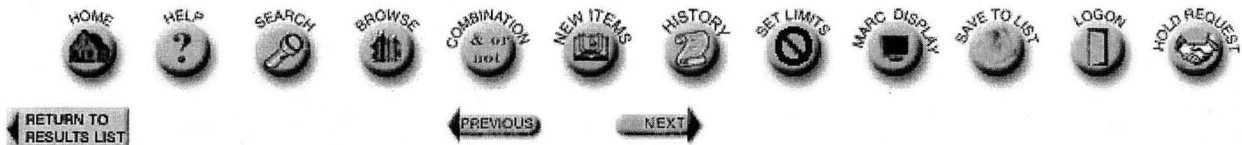
High Cumberland Jubilee—
Barnaby BR-6014
Down To Earth—Barnaby Z-30093
Before The Salt—Barnaby 2-BR-6019
A White Sport Coat And A Pink
Crustacean—ABCDunhill DSX-50150
Probe SPB-1078
Living & Dying In 34 Time—
ABCL-5048
A1A—ABCL-5065
Havana Daydreamin'—ABCL-5148
Changes In Latitudes, Changes In
Attitudes—ABC-5218
Son Of A Son Of A Sailor—
ABCL-5242
Rancho DeLuxe—United Artists
UA-LA466-G
You Had To Be There—MCA MCDW-451
Coconut Telegraph—MCA MCF-3097
Volcano—MCA-5102
Somewhere Over China—MCA-5285

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Author Buffett, Jimmy.

Imprint New York : Little, Brown and Company,
c2004.

**Pages, Illus.,
Size:** xiv, 462 p. ; 25 cm.

**Subject: Topical
Term** Detective and mystery stories.

Location Information

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 - Adult Fiction
 - F BUFFETT
[Available]
- Lucedale
 - Adult Fiction
 - F BUFFETT
[Available]
- Moss Point
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[Available]
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Title A pirate looks at fifty : a
journal / Jimmy Buffett.

Author Buffett, Jimmy.

Edition 1st ed.

Imprint New York : Random House,
c1998.

Pages, Illus., xvi, 458 p. ; 24 cm.
Size:

Subject: Buffett, Jimmy.
Personal
Name

Subject: Country musicians.
Topical
Term

Subject: Rock musicians.
Topical
Term

Location Information

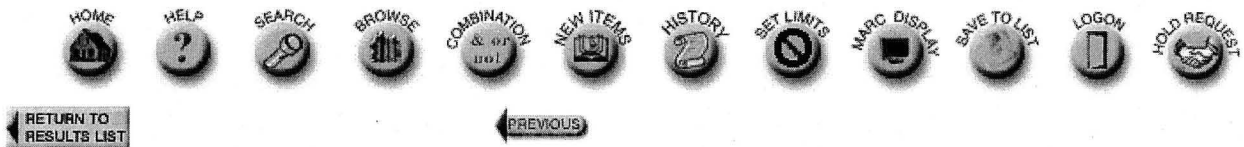
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 - Adult Non-Fiction
 - B BUFFETT [Available]
- Gautier
 - Adult Non-Fiction
 - B BUFFETT [Available]
- Moss Point
 - Adult Non-Fiction
 - B BUFFETT [Available]
- Ocean Springs
 - Adult Non-Fiction
 - B BUFFETT [Available]
- St. Martin
 - Adult Non-Fiction
 - B BUFFETT [Checked Out, Due Back May 15, 2007]
- Vancleave
 - Adult Non-Fiction
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Buffett

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Pages, Illus., Size: 459 p. ; 21 cm.
Series: A Harvest book
Subject: Topical Term Missing persons -- Fiction.
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Subject: Geographic Name Caribbean Area -- Fiction.
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HISTORY

Buffett

THE MOST SOUTHERN PLACE ON EARTH

The Mississippi Delta and the Roots of Regional Identity
by James C. Cobb
Oxford University Press, \$27.95

REVIEW BY STEVE ENG

What does Civil War historian (and novelist) Shelby Foote have in common with rock 'n' roll madman Jerry Lee Lewis—and with country music's only living black star, Charley Price?

The Mississippi Delta.

Stretching south from Memphis to Greenville, Mississippi, the Delta is an area of over 7,000 square miles, where (in the words of Shelby Foote) "slow circuitous creeks, covered with dust and steaming in the heat" curve like snakes. The often-flooded, swampy land, overhung with vines and boasting giant gum trees sometimes six feet wide, possesses rich soil. The fertile ground was ideal for growing cotton on large plantations . . . picked by slaves before the Civil War and by sharecroppers afterward.

The region's long history of exploiting black labor provided the inspiration for the Delta blues, by such musicians as Muddy Waters—whose very name evokes the marsh water of the area. Now the locality receives a vivid and probing examination by James C. Cobb, a University of Tennessee professor who seems equally at home with labor statistics, white man's blues recordings by Carl Perkins, and novels by Walker Percy (who was raised in Greenville).

Cobb brings to life the days of the antebellum planter aristocracy, whose drinking and high-stakes gambling were almost status symbols. Their treatment of slaves makes for painful reading, with the slaves perhaps receiving six to ten Saturday afternoons off a year.

The Civil War saw not only Union

troops destroying plantations, but Confederate soldiers burning up cotton lest it fall into enemy hands. Then after the war, the plantation owners at times kept some slaves in bondage for as long as three years before they learned they were free. The post-war "Black Codes" prevented the blacks from renting land or testifying in court or even preaching the gospel. These were quickly overturned, but their spirit abided far into the 20th century. Nowhere was white supremacy more vigorously upheld than in the Delta between the Mississippi and Yazoo rivers.

Cobb relentlessly exposes the sharecropping racket that kept the blacks in economic chains. Through rigged book-keeping, they stayed in perpetual debt. When Irish workers were brought in, they refused to put up with the dishonesty and left. The white owners preferred black

laborers, of course, refusing to employ poor whites, because the blacks—kept as ignorant as possible through bad schools—were easier to cheat. Yet Cobb reports certain exceptions—in Tunica County in 1900, there were more black landowners than white.

During the Depression, New Deal relief measures were seen as undermining the sharecropping dictatorship in the Delta. In the 1950s, the threat of integration led to the gleeful

murder of Emmett Till, and one of the defense attorneys for the killers said the murder was necessary "to keep our niggers in line."

In this same period the blues music was seeping upriver to Memphis, as blacks and whites laid their voices into the grooves at Sam Phillips's Sun Records. And in Greenville, there were "more writers per square foot than any other city of its size"—such as Walker Percy and Ellen Gilchrist, among many.

Thus has the fertile soil of the Mississippi-Yazoo delta yielded a rich book about this unique place and people . . . a swampy ghetto whose problems are finally being transcended by time and social progress. ☛

DECEMBER 1992



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The Biography of Jimmy Buffett (king of the parrotheads!)



Born: December 25, 1946 Birth Place: Pascagoula, MS
instrument: Guitar, Vocals Singer/songwriter **Jimmy Buffett** has translated his easy-going Gulf Coast persona into more than just a successful recording career -- he has expanded into clothing, nightclubs, and literature. But the basis of the business empire that keeps him on the Fortune magazine list of highest-earning entertainers is his music.



Buffett moved to Nashville to try to make it in country music in the late '60s. Signed to Barnaby, he released one album, *Down to Earth* (1970). The single from which, a socially conscious song, called "The Christian?", suggested he might be more at home protesting in Greenwich Village. (Barnaby "lost" his second album, *High Cumberland Jubilee*, though they would find it and release it after he became successful.) Instead, he moved to Key West, FL, where he gradually evolved the beach bum character and tropical folk-rock style that would endear him to millions.



Signing to ABC-Dunhill Records (later absorbed by MCA), Buffett achieved notoriety but not much else with his second (released) album, *White Sport Coat and a Pink Crustacean* (1973), which featured a song called, "Why Don't We Get Drunk" ("... and Screw?", goes the chorus). Buffett revealed a more thoughtful side on *Living and Dying in 3/4 Time* (1974), with its song of marital separation "Come Monday," his first singles chart entry. But it took the Top Ten song "Margaritaville" and the album in which it was featured, *Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes* (1977), to capture Buffett's tropical world view and, for a while, turn him into a pop star.



By the start of the '80s, Buffett's yearly albums had stopped going gold, and he briefly tried the country market again. But by the middle of the decade, it was his yearly summer tours that were filling his bank account, as a steadily growing core of Sun Belt fans he dubbed "Parrotheads" made his concerts into Mardi Gras-like affairs. Buffett launched his Margaritaville line of clothes and opened the first of his Margaritaville clubs in Key West. He also turned to fiction writing, landing



on the book best-seller lists.

His recording career, meanwhile, languished, though a hits compilation sold millions, a 1990 live album, *Feeding Frenzy*, went gold, and a 1992 boxed set retrospective, *Boats Beaches Bars & Ballads*, became one of the best-selling boxed sets ever. Buffett finally got around to making a new album in 1994, when *Fruitcakes* became one of his fastest-selling records. It was followed in 1995 by *Barometer Soup...* ~ William Ruhlmann

...and in 1996 by *Banana Wind* and *Christmas Island* and in 1998 by *Don't Stop The Carnival*. ~ RemitMan ~

Did you know?"Bubbles Up ! (This is one of Jimmy's favorite sayings...saved his life when he crashed the *Goose* off Long Island...he went through the flight survival training course at Little Creek Nav Air Station in Norfolk, and this was the last thing he remembered before blacking out after the crash..he saw which way the bubbles were going ("bubbles up") and followed them..and survived the crash). *Bubbles Up !*" Uncle Joe

find and buy any of Jimmy's CD's by using the search fild at the bottom of this page :)

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B
BUFFETT



Jimmy Buffett

The Man from
Margaritaville
Revealed

■

STEVE ENG

ST. MARTIN'S PRESS
NEW YORK



Acknowledgments: Changes in Contributions, Changes in Attributions



Many, many people have helped this author, often rendering more assistance than was ever expected.

Libraries come first, since they are always there: Betsy Fisher, Ron Perry, Bernadette Wessels (Ben West Public Library, Nashville); Kent Henderson, Paul Kingsbury, Ronnie Pugh (Country Music Foundation Library, Nashville); Theresa Hambrick (Tennessee State Library and Archives); Paul Wells (Center for Popular Music, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee); Else Martin, Betty Rodgers, Jean Strickland (Jackson-George Regional Library System, Pascagoula Public Library, Genealogy and Local History Department, Pascagoula, Mississippi); Harry L. Simmons (Mississippi Room, Southern Station, Hattiesburg, Mississippi); Irene Wainwright, J. Rodney Smith (New Orleans Public Library); Mary Ann Drinkard, Holly Rowland, George H. Schroeter (Mobile Public Library, Local History and Genealogy, Mobile, Alabama); Michael Thomson, Charles J. Boyle (Thomas Byrne Memorial Library, Spring Hill College, Mobile, Alabama); Miami Dade Public Library; Linda M. Huey, Thomas L. Hambright (Monroe County May Hill Russell Library, Local and State History Department, Key West, Florida); Multnomah County Public Library, Portland, Oregon; The Chicago Public Library; Barbara P. Andrews (Nantucket Atheneum, Nantucket, Massachusetts).

Historical sources: Arthur Mora, Mickey Quillen, Aaron Zahide (Epsilon Nu Chapter, Kappa Sigma, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi); W. A. Helms (Old Spanish Fort Museum, Pascagoula, Mississippi); Jazie Torjusen, Thomas Wixon (Pascagoula, Mississippi); Charles J. Torrey (Museum of the History of Mobile, Mobile, Alabama); Eleanor Benz (McGill-Toolen High School, Mobile, Alabama); Lisa Baldwin (University of Southern Alabama, Mobile, Ala-

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Captain Jimmie Buffett

Chapter One

yster shells crunched under the tires as we parked. An orange neon sign on the roof flashed "PELHAM'S," the name of our favorite riverside cafe. The year was 1941, a few months before Pearl Harbor. J.D. and I had been dating since August and I was to meet his dad.

Captain Buffett was skipper of the DELMUNDO, a cargo ship sailing between New Orleans and South America for the Mississippi Shipping Company. All the months he was at sea, his family often talked about "when Daddy gets home." I had come to realize that although they looked forward to his return from each voyage, when the Captain came ashore Catherine didn't date, J.D. was in early each evening, Billy came straight home from school, and Patsy and her husband Roy were at his beck and call from their house next door. Life clearly did not go on as usual. Squabbles were kept to a minimum, each meal was Sunday dinner, and everybody adhered to Mom's, "Remember, we don't want to upset Daddy while he's here."

An independent nineteen year old, I was working as a secretary at Ingalls Shipyard, living in Gulfport for the first time. The prospect of spending an entire evening with the demanding captain was not exactly my idea of a fun date. But J.D. was a new beau who seemed to be getting "serious;" besides, we planned to sneak off after dinner and go for a moonlight sail.

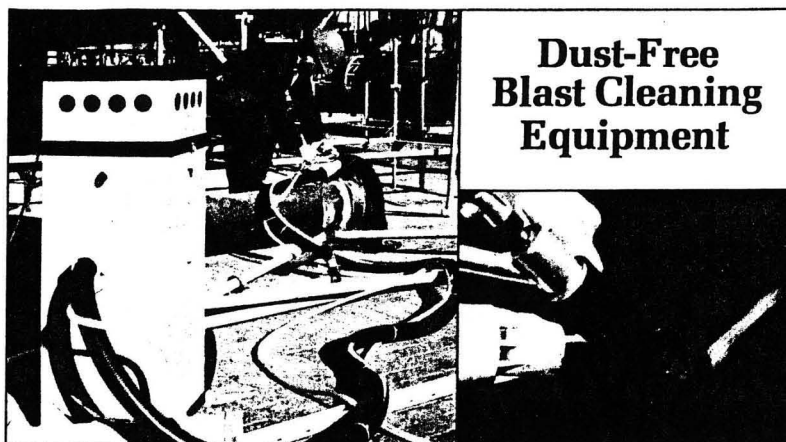
I didn't know what to expect as J.D. led me across the narrow, plank walkway and opened the door to the

By Peets Buffett [Jimmy's
mother]

Sept. 1986

Mobile Bay Monthly 63

Vol. 1, NO. 9



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A SAILOR'S LIFE/from page 63

sagging screened porch which was the dining area. A breeze whistled through the screens, and the rising tide lapped at the barnacled piling below. In the distance a foghorn croaked warnings to the river traffic. J.D.'s mother, his sisters, his kid brother, and his brother-in-law surrounded the Captain at a large round table in the middle of the room. Platters of steaming pink shrimp and russet-colored crabs were at the center, and frosty beer mugs marked each place. Above the river noises and the chatter of other diners, we could hear the resonant voice of the Captain. "...so I made sure everything was shipshape and Bristol fashion before I let any of the crew leave the ship."

He glanced up at J.D. as we reached the table. "You're late."

I blushed and looked the other way because, as usual, I had not been ready when J.D. came to pick me up. J.D. just nodded and said, "Daddy, I want you to meet my girl, Peets."

Captain Buffett stood, sized me up in a moment, extended a firm handshake and said, "Sit down, young lady, and have a beer. Help yourself to some of this seafood, too. It's mighty damn good."

I took the cane-back chair next to J.D., facing his father. I straightened my collar and fidgeted with a hangnail on my thumb, trying to escape his gaze. "Peets?" he questioned. "What kind of name is that for a girl?"

I laughed at his chauvinism, not yet having had my feminist consciousness raised, and reached for a hot shrimp before I answered. "For one thing, it's my last name. And it's Welsh. I do have another name — Loraine — but nearly everybody calls me Peets. 'Specially my friends."

"That's what I'll call you then." He paused a moment. "My family came over from Wales, too."

Captain Buffett looked exactly like a weathered seafarer, except that he was shorter than I'd expected — about my height. His face was tan and deeply lined, his dark crewcut had hints of gray at the temple, and under his crisp, white Arrow shirt there was a suggestion of a pot belly. But he had the most remarkable eyes. Gray-blue and clear as crystal, they seemed to twinkle even when his expression was serious.

We settled back at the table, refill-
continued on page 66

*A SAILOR'S LIFE/*from page 64

ing plates and glasses while the Captain resumed the conversation with another episode from his youthful sailing days. A hopeless romantic, I soon found myself enchanted with this adventurer and the tales he was spinning. My initial apprehension about our meeting was soon allayed by his charms, but there was no way of knowing that we would develop a mutual admiration which would endure until the end of his life. On that pleasant Indian summer evening, I found Captain Buffett unlike anyone I'd ever met before and hoped that I would get the chance to know him better.

Even then, I was curious about what quirk of fate had brought the sailor from the Maritime Provinces all the way to Mississippi, to meet a girl, marry her, and raise a family. J.D. had told me about young Jimmie Buffett leaving Nova Scotia at the tender age of sixteen to become a cabin boy on a whaling ship, so he could search for his older brother John, who had been reported shipwrecked. But how had he ended up in this small port town on the Gulf of Mexico, at Mrs. Seymour's boarding house beside the Singing River at Pascagoula?

I didn't learn the answers at that dinner, but in time I uncovered much of the story. Hilda Seymour, the eldest of seven children, was a dark-haired beauty of seventeen in 1916 when Jimmie Buffett first walked into her mother's boarding house seeking lodgings. Mrs. Seymour's rooms were clean, cheap, and convenient, a favorite stopover for crews from the sailing ships that moored off Horn Island, about twelve miles out in the Gulf, while loading and unloading lumber.

On his initial stay he had made a lasting impression on the pretty teenager. His occasional contributions to suppertime discussions were always about strange people and far-off places. In the months that followed, he returned briefly several times, but nothing more than a polite hello was exchanged between them. Finally, when Hilda was cleaning his room one day, she dared take the initiative. Into a book he was obviously reading, she inserted a note as a bookmark: "Why don't you talk a little more? You always sound so good." Thus she made the move that began a love affair lasting through fifty-one years of marriage.

The early stages went slowly. Mom

swears that she never had another boyfriend after meeting Pop, but for a while he continued to have a girl in every port, like seafarers the world over. His stays at the boarding-house were always short, and the intervals between visits were often as long as five or six months. It was two years before the couple eloped to Gulfport, Mississippi, on August 12, 1918, to be married by a Justice of the Peace. Says Hilda Buffett of their courtship, "Mostly, we'd go walking on the beach after supper at night. Didn't have a car then, and there wasn't a lot to do in Pascagoula in those days."

When they broke the news to her family, Jimmie moved in permanently with his bride. "Of course," she recalls, "he had to leave in a couple of days, but I knew he'd be back." Come back he did, and leave again, and again, during the years that Hilda stayed in Pascagoula bearing and rearing children, and helping her mother with the boarders. James D., Jr. (my J.D.) was born in 1919, Patsy in 1921, and Catherine in 1923. Because he was away at sea for longer periods than he spent at home, Hilda continued staying at her mother's. When Billy, their fourth and last child was born in 1926, the family had completely outgrown their cramped quarters. Hilda rented a house on the beach with room enough for everyone, and took her mother with them when they moved. In fact, Granny Seymour remained for several years, helping with the children and the cooking. She also took over the household when Hilda accompanied her husband on ships plying the timber trade to the Caribbean.

One such trip was aboard the five-masted barkentine, MON-FALCONE, a 372-foot vessel with 90,000 square yards of sail which had been built at the old International Shipyard in Pascagoula. Jimmie Buffett was her first master, making the maiden voyage to Cuba in November, 1920, accompanied by his wife and first-born. The Captain later recalled it as the most eventful he ever experienced aboard this vessel. He took the ship from Pascagoula to New Orleans, where at the St. Andrews Dock she was loaded with three million feet of lumber to be delivered to Havana. Enroute they encountered a fierce hurricane in the Gulf which they rode out in good shape, but which delayed the arrival. Upon reaching their destination, the master

continued on page 68

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*A SAILOR'S LIFE/*from page 67

learned that the consignee was unable to pay for the cargo, in fact, had skipped town. It was necessary to remain moored for several days while he worked out a deal to unload the lumber and collect the funds for the same before he could return to the States and pay off the crew.

On the afternoon of November 25th, while they were still awaiting funds, the cook baked a special cake and Hilda dressed their toddler in a brand-new white sailor suit with blue braid around the wide collar and a star on each corner. Suddenly, while crawling around the open deck, J.D. pulled himself up and began to take his first tottering steps. It was an auspicious moment for the young couple, so the Captain immediately hoisted all the vessel's flags to mark the occasion. Ships around them began to signal, trying to find out why the flags were flying. When the MONFALCONE answered back, each skipper followed suit, until all the flags on all the ships in Havana harbor were flying in celebration of J.D.'s first birthday. This oft-repeated story made Havana very special to the Buffett family.

Since old Havana had been a frequent and favorite port of call for the skipper, he entertained first his children, then his grandchildren, for many years with stories of adventures there. Cuba came to have a magnetic appeal for all Buffetts — a place about which the elders reminisced and which the young longed to see. Billy, who served in the Navy in World War II (and then followed his father into the merchant marine after the war), was the first to make the pilgrimage. Quite by chance in 1948, Billy found himself in Havana for three months while his ship awaited major repairs. He used the time trying to relive his dad's days there, exploring bars, restaurants, and who knows what else from the Captain's past. When he returned, he promptly reported to his father all the vital information he'd picked up: what was happening at Sloppy Joe's, where the best fried plantains, black beans, or Cuba libres could be bought, and where to find the prettiest dancing girls in town.

Years later, in 1966, after Fidel Castro had assumed control, J.D. rode the U.S.S. ARLINGTON on a shakedown cruise from Mobile to Guantanamo Bay. Poor Jay — the

most he got to see this trip was the view across barbed wire atop the wall protecting the old naval base. What a contrast from his visit in 1920, when flags flew from the tops of all the masts in the harbor in honor of his first birthday!

A decade later our daughter, Laurie, sailed with her husband, Tom McGuane, in a race from Key West to Havana, the first sanctioned by the two countries during Castro's rule. Tom wrote the following to us on December 10, 1978, as they departed on their odyssey:

Dear Peets and J.D.,

This is to inform you that I am transporting your daughter to a Communist nation. In the event that cheap comments are made in the press as to our politics, we should like you to know that we are merely revisiting the scene of J.D.'s first steps.

*Love,
Tom*

For the Captain's grandson and namesake, Jimmy Buffett, who had been "Havana Daydreamin'" all his life (his album of the same name is dedicated to his grandfather's memory), his ultimate dream was realized. In 1983, he was invited to sail with Ernest Hemingway's son, Jack, and granddaughter, Margeaux, aboard a venerable old sloop, the WESTERN UNION, retracing the writer's travels in the very same ship from Key West to Havana. While there, at Hemingway's favorite bar, Jimmy picked up a guitar and sang about his grandfather, fulfilling his fondest fantasy, albeit under the watchful eye of the KGB.

As for me, alas, the only time I ever saw Cuba was through binoculars from the starboard side of a cruise ship as the social director pointed out its sandy beaches a few miles away.

And so, the mystique remains. Now there are three generations of Buffetts drawn to the scene of J.D.'s first steps, who are just itching to get down there and see the Captain's old stomping grounds. Watch out, Havana, the rest of us Buffetts will get there some day, amigos.

Hasta luego!

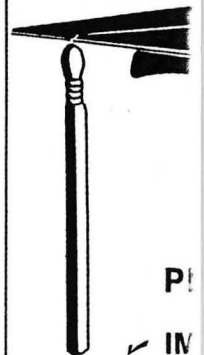
A Sailor's Life is the first chapter of a book on the life of Captain Jimmie Buffett by Peets Buffett, to be published in 1987 by Yoknapatawpha Press, Oxford, Mississippi.

Peets Buffett lives and writes in Daphne, Alabama.



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ARTS BRIEFS

Literature

Buffett book

Nashville writer Steve Eng has begun work on a new biography of singer Jimmy Buffett for St. Martin's Press. The book, which is not titled yet, will be published next year.

The author said he hopes to interview Buffett, as well as people who have personal recollections of him. He also is looking for old photos and articles about him. If you'd like to help, you can call him collect at (615) 226-1890 or write him at P.O. Box 60072, Nashville, Tenn., 37206.

Steve Eng



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Cordially...

*Steve
Eng*

Free-lance Writer

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2-19-94

Buffett

Steve Eng



Ms. Else Martin,
History and Genealogy Dept.,
Jackson County Public Library
3214 Pascagoula St.,
Pascagoula, Miss. 39567

Dear Else,

This is to confirm my interest in finding the rooming house run by Norman M. Seymour and wife Condalaura (Flechas) Seymour, on the beach during World War I. Their daughter Hilda married Capt. James Delaney Buffett, Jimmy's grandfather ("The Captain and the Kid," and "Son of a Son of a Sailor"). I need the address (would pay for the title of the property) and, most unlikely, a photo if anything still stands. I would pay you a research fee for such extra efforts and a free book. If there were anything to photograph, black and white and several shots is the rule. Simply call collect.

And Pelham's restaurant mentioned in Peets Buffett's memoir is the other site in question (tentatively 380 Front St.).

If any courthouse records of property ownership can be exhumed for Buffetts, this too is of importance.

T H A N K S for any help.....

Steve

Buffett

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Subject: Re: "The Pascagoula Run" by Jimmy Buffet

Hello Pascagoula,

I work at a radio station in Madison, WI and just heard an obscure Jimmy Buffet song called "The Pascagoula Run". In the lyrics, there is a reference to "Billy in his '65 Jaguar...", a person who invites Buffet to join him on a wild scurry of sorts. Any idea who this character might be...please reply.

Thanks

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*Billy & Joyce
look Jimmy
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*- J.D. + Patsy -
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The Pascagoula Run

The Pascagoula Run

By: Jimmy Buffett, Jay Oliver

1989

Billy pulled in in a Jaguar

Red convertible sixty-five

Headed home to Mississippi, he'd been around the world

That black sheep uncle of mine

His ship had come in, he was looking to sin

Singing his own song

When he yelled from the drive, my heart came alive

";Jimmy boy come along";

Chorus:

It's time to see the world

It's time to kiss a girl

It's time to cross the wild meridian

Grab your bag and take a chance

Time to learn a Cajun dance

Kid you're gonna see the morning sun

On the Pascagoula run

Pascagoula run

Friday night at the Stateline bar

Where the waterfront people dwell

I better watch my step if the floor caves in

I'll go right straight to hell

There were pinball machines and cajun queens

Men with knives and scars

Billy moved 'cross the floor to the real hard core

And said, ";Here's where it gets bizarre";

Chorus:

It's time to see the world

It's time to kiss a girl

It's time to cross the wild meridian

Grab your bag and take a chance

Time to learn a Cajun dance

Kid you're gonna see the morning sun

On the Pascagoula run

Pascagoula run

What do the ladies say, what do the ladies say

What do the ladies say, what do the ladies say

What do the ladies say, what do the ladies say

What do the ladies say, what do the ladies say

Bring that young man over here

We're going to buy that boy a beer

And that ain't all we want to do

Bring your crazy uncle too

Chorus:

It's time to see the world

It's time to kiss a girl

It's time to cross the wild meridian

Grab your bag and take a chance

Time to learn a Cajun dance

Kid you're gonna see the morning sun

On the Pascagoula run

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